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IDF nabs two boatloads of arms from Jordan

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Security sources said they are investigating whether the suspected Palestinian gunman captured over the weekend attempting to smuggle two boatloads of small arms from Jordan via the Dead Sea was in the service of the Palestinian Authority.

Reserve troops captured the Palestinian late Friday, the army said. He had just landed along the northwestern shore of the Dead Sea with two motorized rubber dinghies

filled with over 100 weapons and thousands of rounds of ammunition. Military sources said the cache included 60 Kalashnikov assault rifles, seven shotguns, 38 pistols, ammunition, and clips. It was the second time this year that the IDF foiled an attempt to smuggle weapons along this known gun-running route, but IDF officers said the size of the cache was unprecedented.

"We have intelligence information that the Palestinian Authority has been trying to build up a hoard of

weapons in case violent hostilities break out between us. This could well be part of that," said a senior IDF official. The Palestinian was taken for interrogation by the General Security Service. A GSS source said last night that the possible involvement of Hamas or security figures is being investigated. The source added that the smuggler was assisted by at least four people prior to his departure from Jordan. Security sources said that since so

many weapons were involved, it was not likely they were bound for criminals or terrorist groups. But this, too, is being investigated, they added. The police said the weapons are being checked for fingerprints and were being test-fired to see if they had been used in previous attacks or if police had a record of the weapon. The incident began late Friday night when IDF forces were alerted to an attempted infiltration near Ein Fash'ha. Soldiers immediately closed in on the area.

Fearing the infiltration was by armed terrorists, the settlements in the region were warned and all the roads were closed. Soldiers captured the suspected infiltrator. "He didn't try to resist. He was surprised, shocked really," said Lt. Col. Moshe Fischer, commander of the reserve battalion who soldiers patrol the border. A stolen commercial vehicle reportedly was found nearby, suggesting that the smuggler had accomplices on land. Military sources said the Palestinian, 27,

from the West Bank, is a known smuggler. Throughout the night, IDF and Jordanian army officers were in constant contact over the incident. Yesterday morning, senior Jordanian officers, including Gen. Khaled Jamil Serara, commander of the 4th Division, joined OC Central Command Maj. Gen. Uzi Dayan on a visit to the site of the attempted infiltration. The Jordanians, concerned that such a large amount of weapons was available in their country, promised

to be more energetic in monitoring smuggling routes, IDF sources said. Government sources in Jordan said that it is believed the weapons were bound for the PA. They said that arms dealers are attracted to Jordan since illegal weapons are much cheaper there than in the West Bank. The GSS source said that Israel will contact Jordan today regarding the strengthening of security cooperation along the border. *Eitan Rabin contributed to this report.*

Security Council mulls wording of Iraq resolution

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK — The Security Council was struggling at week's end to craft a resolution that dealt with the "severity" of the consequences if Iraq blocks UN weapons inspectors, and whether such action would automatically trigger the use of force.

Britain, with the support of the US, formally submitted a draft resolution to the council on Friday warning Iraq of "very severe consequences." An earlier version warned of "the severest consequences."

The language of the resolution was vague, and it was not clear if the council would have to reconvene to determine if Iraq had violated the pact reached last week with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and to authorize the use of force. France, Russia, China, and Brazil have said that a council resolution would need to make clear that the use of force would require another council decision.

A vote could come as early as tomorrow, although a delay until Tuesday is expected as council members await instructions from their governments. A delay also was likely because of the routine, monthly change in the council's presidency. Abdoulaye Momodou Sallal of Gambia will become council president for March, succeeding Denis Dangué Rwaoka of Gabon.

The draft resolution repeats the council's intention to consider lifting sanctions against Iraq once it is determined that Baghdad has completed all the disarmament requirements contained in a 1991 Gulf War cease-fire resolution. Iraq, with the support of numerous UN members, wants a stronger commitment toward easing sanctions.

The Clinton administration was juggling the resistance of the Security Council against the defiance of the Republican leadership of the Congress.

Sen. Jesse Helms said Annan "gave away the store," while other senators carped that the UN is conducting American foreign policy.

Iraq yesterday dismissed the draft resolution as "unnecessary." Oil Minister Amir Mohammed Rasheed said it was redundant because the deal clinched by Annan was a cast-iron accord.

"We feel [it is] totally unnecessary to have any Security Council resolution to support the memorandum of understanding which we have reached," said Rasheed. "It has the power of law. It does not need any endorsement."

He pledged that Iraq is ready to work with the inspectors and said they would be given access to the sites, accompanied by diplomats, would show up by the "hundreds" of US and British charges they were used to conceal secret weapons programs.



Hundreds of people attend the funeral of St.-Sgt. Yoni Dviri at the Kiryat Shani cemetery in Tel Aviv on Friday.

4 soldiers hurt in Lebanon attack

By DAVID RUDGE

Four paratroopers were lightly wounded when they helped repulse an attack by Hizbullah gunmen on the South Lebanese Army's Ghazian outpost in the northeastern sector of the security zone on Friday.

At least three of the attackers were shot while trying to raise Hizbullah's flag on the position's ramparts.

Heavy exchanges of fire delayed the evacuation of the wounded soldiers to Haifa's Rambam Hospital. Helicopter gunships escorted the medical evacuation chopper from Lebanese territory. One of the soldiers suffered moderate wounds; the three others were lightly hurt.

As many as 70 Hizbullah gunmen are believed to have been involved in the fighting — most of them in providing support and covering fire.

Only a handful of gunmen, however, actually approached the position, despite the cover provided by thick vegetation and the boulder-strewn terrain.

The ground assault occurred around the same time as the funerals for the three soldiers, two from the Givati Brigade and the other from the Intelligence Corps, who were killed on Thursday.

IDF engages Hizbullah in propaganda war, Page 2

Capt. Assaf Rosenfeld, 21, of Acre, St.-Sgt. Ronen Eshel, 21, of Rishon LeZion, and St.-Sgt. Yoni Dviri, 20, of Kfar Sava, died on Thursday when a mortar round exploded directly outside their observation post at the Karkum position in the western sector of the security zone.

Rosenfeld had been due to receive a certificate of merit on Independence Day for exemplary service.

Thousands of people attended the funerals.

Two soldiers who were also inside the observation post were seriously wounded in the blast and a third was very lightly hurt.

The badly wounded were in stable condition at Rambam Hospital yesterday. Two of the soldiers wounded on Friday were released from the hospital last night.

The fighting on Friday was accompanied by heavy mortar and missile bombardments of IDF and SLA positions along the length of the security zone. There were no casualties in these attacks.

The Karkum position which was hit Thursday was again a target, as was another outpost in the western sector which Hizbullah announced had been attacked nearly an hour before the rounds actually started falling.

Security sources said it appeared that the bombardments were aimed at diverting attention from the ground assault on Ghazian.

The infantry attack appears to have been carefully planned, with several Hizbullah gunmen approaching to within a few dozen meters of the compound before opening fire. Prior to the ground assault, the attackers fired missiles.

Later, the IAF struck at Hizbullah targets in the Jabal

Sonjud region. The IDF Spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits and that all the planes returned safely to base.

It was the second unsuccessful attempt by Hizbullah to overrun a SLA outpost in a week. Last Saturday a similar attack on the Sonjud position was repulsed.

The deaths in Friday's fighting brought to at least five the number of Hizbullah gunmen killed in clashes with IDF and SLA troops in the past few days.

Last Thursday, members of the Egoz unit spotted a Hizbullah squad and charged them, killing two gunmen. There were no casualties among the soldiers.

Security sources said Hizbullah has lost as many as 25 men since the beginning of the year — 10 in the past week. The sources said the organization is finding it increasingly difficult to carry out operations deep in the zone and is being restricted to firing from long range.

The two recent ground assaults were seen as attempts to boost Hizbullah's morale in the face of the heavy losses, which the organization has been trying keep under wraps.

Mossad head likely to be named today

PM said to favor Amiram Levine

By EITAN RABIN

The next head of the Mossad is likely to be announced tonight or tomorrow morning, with OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine still thought to be Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's first choice.

However, a government source said that Netanyahu wants to discuss the matter further, and is to meet today with former Mossad heads Shabtai Shavit and Meir Amit.

Netanyahu has been meeting with all the former Mossad heads, to get their opinion on whether it is better to appoint someone from outside to head the organization or to promote someone from the inside. The Mossad veterans are apparently split.

Netanyahu has also raised Levine's name and asked the former Mossad chiefs for their opinions, a source said.

Though Levine is the leading candidate, he does have a strike against him: He has no intelligence background. This is apparently why Netanyahu is still deliberating, since he very much wants to make an appointment that will be accepted by the Mossad's senior echelons and thus reduce the tension in the organization.

Meanwhile, an internal Mossad inquiry, led by outgoing Mossad head Danny Yatom, into the "operational malfunction" in Switzerland determined that it was simply a case of bad luck and not a major planning or operational failure.

There are unlikely to be any dismissals at the top of the organization as a result, a Mossad source said, noting that the Mossad carries out dozens of operations annually and sometimes problems occur.

In another development, Yatom's

lawyer, Zvi Bar-Natan, scathingly criticized the Ciechanover Committee, which had investigated the botched assassination attempt on Hamas leader Khaled Masha'al in Amman.

Speaking to Israel Radio, Bar-Natan said Yatom was given to understand that the committee would not issue any conclusions regarding Yatom himself, and as a result he provided full details of what had ensued. In the end, however, committee member Rafi Peled did recommend that Yatom be dismissed.

But one of the committee members rejected Bar-Natan's criticism, saying the committee had done its work properly.

Sources say that Yatom plans to fire off his own criticism of the Ciechanover Report, but is waiting until he is replaced.

Israel apologizes to Swiss

Switzerland received Israel's apology on Friday for the abortive Mossad operation there last month. "I expressed Israel's regret at the inconvenience caused by the incident," Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur said. "My message also stressed the need for the international community to combat terrorism and thereby promote stability in the Middle East."

Jay Bushinsky

Clinton denies TV report of new strategy over Lewinsky

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The White House has no plans to tell an "alternate story" to US President Bill Clinton's vehement denial of any improper relations with former intern Monica Lewinsky, spokesman Joe Lockhart said yesterday.

The comment came in response to a CBS News report that Clinton's strategy in the White House sex scandal would be to admit a special relationship with Lewinsky, but that it involved only kissing.

Independent counsel Kenneth Starr is investigating allegations Clinton had a sexual affair with Lewinsky and urged her to lie

about it under oath. The president has denied the allegations.

"We have denied that there is any communications strategy to tell an alternate story," Lockhart said in Utah, where Clinton and his family are taking a winter break.

Lockhart declined to discuss the specifics of the CBS report. The White House counsel's office also said the report was incorrect, CBS reported.

On January 28, Clinton forcefully denied having a sexual relationship with Lewinsky.

"I want to say one thing to the American people. I want you to listen to me. I'm going to say this

again. I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky," he said at the White House, wagging his finger for emphasis. "I never told anybody to lie, not a single time — never. These allegations are false and I need to go back to work for the American people."

Beyond his denials of improper behavior, Clinton has refused to discuss the matter. Aides have said Clinton is worried that if he provides details, others might use the information to pressure people to twist the truth.

Washington lawyer Vernon Jordan, a Clinton confidant who helped Lewinsky land a job in

New York, is slated to appear before Starr's grand jury next week, it was reported. Jordan has said Lewinsky told him she had no sexual relationship with Clinton.

In a sworn statement, Lewinsky denied a sexual relationship with Clinton. Others, including former friend Linda Tripp, say she told a far different story to them.

Meanwhile in a Newsweek poll released yesterday, Clinton's overall approval rating held steady last week at 64 percent.

Thirty-eight percent said the president should leave office if he is found to be involved in perjury over his alleged affair with

Lewinsky. 33% said he should apologize and stay in office, while 19% said he should stay in office even without an apology.

The poll's margin of error was plus or minus four percentage points.

The Washington Post adds:

Starr has subpoenaed two Arkansas private investigators who the *National Enquirer* said it dispatched in 1996 to check out rumors that Starr was having an extramarital affair.

One of the investigators took photographs outside the home of a prominent Arkansas heiress rumored to be involved with Starr, but the tabloid "came up

dry," according to *Enquirer* editor Steve Coz, and never published anything on the allegations.

The subpoenas, first reported Friday in *USA Today*, are the latest effort by Starr's office to determine whether people with connections to the White House have been spreading misinformation about him and his staff.

The surveillance by the investigators took place in late 1996, more than a year before Starr began investigating Clinton's relationship with Lewinsky. It was unclear Friday whether Starr knew the investigators had been hired by the tabloid when he issued the subpoenas.



NEWS

in brief

Naveh and Arad traveling to Europe today

Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser, Uzi Arad, are making a one-day trip to Europe today, but their precise destination is not being made public.

"They are going to a European capital," a source said, adding it was not Bern, Switzerland. The journey could be related to the peace process - for example, a back-channel negotiation linked to the current series of public contacts between Israeli and Palestinian officials. Arad, however, has been active in the campaign to discourage Russia from exporting its missile technology to Iran and the trip might be related to this.

Jay Bushinsky

Gas station attendant murdered

Mahmoud Haib, 27, was murdered Friday night at a gas station at the Alumot junction in Lower Galilee at which he worked. His body was discovered by someone who pulled into the station for gas. Police are considering all possibilities, including that he was killed in a robbery.

"When cows were shot to death at Kibbutz Beit Keshet [two weeks ago], I warned the police that criminals in the area had crossed a red line and wouldn't hesitate to use guns on people," said Benny Gorfinkel, of nearby Moshav Sharon.

Itim

Body found in quarry

The body of a man, about 40, was found in a quarry near Tiberias yesterday afternoon. It had apparently been there for several days.

The dead man was later identified as Fouaz Ambas of Kafr Kana, who had been missing since February 15.

Itim

Man killed by police during drug raid

Sa'ad Salah, 33, of Majdal Shams in the Golan Heights, was shot to death late Thursday night when he attacked policemen who were attempting to arrest people during a drug raid in the village. According to police, Salah came at the policemen with a knife. Another attacker was arrested.

Itim

Pollard lawyer accuses Israel of foot-dragging

A lawyer for convicted spy Jonathan Pollard yesterday accused the government of dragging its feet while claiming that it wants to secure Pollard's release from an American jail. In a statement submitted to the High Court of Justice Friday, the government said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is setting up an interministerial committee to coordinate efforts to obtain Pollard's release.

However Pollard's lawyer Baruch Ben-Yosef dismissed the state's reply as "another attempt to gain time, instead of taking the steps necessary to obtain my client's freedom."

AP

Hanegbi: Extend import ban on unkosher meat

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi plans to propose extending a law that bans the import of frozen unkosher meat at today's cabinet meeting. The extension would be done by amending Basic Law: Freedom of Trade.

The law was enacted 10 years ago and is set to expire on March 22. The coalition agreement calls for prolonging the statute.

Itim

International drug ring uncovered

Four members of a ring that over the past several years has allegedly imported and distributed large quantities of hard drugs and also distributed drugs in Europe were arrested last week.

A 28-year-old Geder resident was arrested at Ben-Gurion Airport on his way to Holland. He was carrying a large amount of foreign currency, with which, police believe, he was going to purchase drugs. Also arrested were a 40-year-old man who resides in Belgium, but was visiting here; a 26-year-old man from Yavne, and a 27-year-old woman from Geder.

Last year alone, the ring imports dozens of kilograms of cocaine, and hundreds of thousands of LSD pills.

Itim

Mayors from 56 countries arrive for conference

More than 750 mayors and local government officials from around the world are due today for a conference in Jerusalem marking the 60th anniversary of local councils in Israel, in addition to the nation's jubilee. Adi Eldar, chairman of the Union of Local Authorities in Israel said yesterday that the conference was the biggest of its kind in the world. Among the planned speakers are Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Ezer Weizman. Palestinian Authority representatives are expected to attend.

Jerusalem Post Staff

IAF pilots hold exercise with Americans

In a step toward opening itself to cooperation with allied air forces, two IAF pilots recently participated in a training exercise with US and other NATO air forces in the United States.

The exercise, dubbed "Red Flag," reportedly included dog fights and bombing runs in a simulated assault over enemy territory. The F-16 pilots were identified by the Air Force Magazine as Maj. Ariel and Maj. Amir. They reportedly flew three sorties apiece, playing mostly an observer role as they sat in the back seat of a USAF F-16 during the exercise in Nevada.

Arieh O'Sullivan

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

ESTER (Ull) MÜNTZ

Funeral will take place today, Sunday, March 1, 1998, at 11:30 a.m., at the Givat Shaul Cemetery, Jerusalem.

Mourners:
Yossi Goshen and family
Zeev Goshen and family

With great sorrow we mourn the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother

MIRIAM BLACHER

(née Sax)

widow of the late Haim (Charles) Blacher

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and all her grandchildren

Funeral at the Holon Cemetery,
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3/6 Ussishkin St., Ramat Hasharon.

Government source:

PA stalling to prompt US initiative

By JAY BUSHINSKY

A government source accused the Palestinian Authority yesterday of attempting to stall and ultimately freeze negotiations with Israel in the belief that this will compel the US to impose terms for the projected redeployment of IDF forces in the West Bank and other issues in dispute.

"The Americans will make up their minds on Wednesday whether to notify the parties of their proposals for a bilateral agreement," the source said, contending that a meeting on this prospect is due to take place then at the US State Department.

A senior American source maintains that the US has no intention of presenting a plan this week. The Americans are assessing the

impact of the Iraq crisis on the negotiations, and hope that the Palestinians can progress through bilateral negotiations, the source said. He added that the US was not pleased with leaks from the bilateral talks.

The PA's chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat, denied Israel's charge.

"They know we don't want to stall in opening the airport and freeing our prisoners," Erekat said. "The Americans are helping us bridge the gap."

In a swipe at Israel's tactics, Erekat said he "hopes the Israeli side will concentrate on implementing its part of the agreement precisely and accurately instead of exporting blame on us in every field."

Criticism of the PA's alleged stonewalling became exceptional-

ly blunt and unequivocal following Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's unsuccessful session in Dabaniya, site of the Palestinian airport, with the PA's deputy leader, Mahmoud Abbas (Abu-Mazen).

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's director of communications, David Bar-Ilan, said the Palestinians "tried very hard to freeze everything and did everything possible to prevent progress."

Bar-Ilan was expected to fly to the US today in what may be a behind-the-scenes attempt to head off an American initiative that might run counter to Israel's concepts.

Mordechai conferred with Abu-Mazen on the security arrangements necessary to enable the airport, which is situated at the

southern end of the Gaza Strip, to begin operation.

They also discussed the requisite air corridors for incoming and outgoing flights and air traffic coordination with the Israeli Aviation Authority. "Nothing constructive happened there," Bar-Ilan said.

Mordechai put a positive spin on the talks. "We are going in the right direction," he said on Israel Radio. "There is definite progress."

Abu-Mazen indicated that he and Mordechai still were far apart.

"There are many points and there is no need to mention them now," he told the Reuters news agency. "We discussed in this meeting the points we agreed upon and the points we disagreed upon, but there still is an uneasy gap."

The PA leader said joint industrial zones at Karmi and elsewhere also were on the agenda. Among those at the meeting were Erekat, and the deputy chief of staff, Brig. Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

US foreign policy makers evidently favor the withdrawal of IDF troops from at least 13 percent of territory under their control.

They were expected to support the Israeli suggestion that the pull-back be implemented in at least three stages and be pegged to PA compliance with commitments in the Oslo Accord and Hebron Agreement, especially with regard to security.

Netanyahu generally is believed to prefer a phased evacuation of no more than 9% of land.

Avinoam Bar-Yosef contributed to this report.

PM has 'no qualms' about a Lebanon pullout

By LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had "no qualms" about Security Council Resolution 425 which calls for a withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

However, Netanyahu went on to say Friday that Israel could only move its troops if the Lebanese government provides security guarantees.

"We have no qualms with resolution 425 that talks about our departure from Lebanon," Netanyahu told a group of Canadian Jews.

"We're interested in leaving Lebanon with the necessary security safeguards."

MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) welcomed the prime minister's comments.

"I hope this means that Israel accepts resolution 425. This resolution calls on Israel to, unconditionally, leave Lebanon after which Lebanon will deploy its forces, with the help of UNIFIL, to the international border," he said yesterday.

Beilin, who heads the Movement to Leave Lebanon in Peace, said that Lebanon had recently pledged to have its army establish effective control over areas evacuated by the IDF.

"UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan told me in a meeting a month ago that immediately after Israel left Lebanon he would convene the Security Council to take a new resolution to significantly strengthen UNIFIL to enable it to help the Lebanese Army redeploy," Beilin said.

Beilin visited the Karkum outpost where he met with soldiers involved in a mortar attack on Thursday in which three IDF soldiers were killed and two were seriously wounded.

Last night he said: "Today it is clearer and clearer to the government, the IDF and the public, that it is possible to leave Lebanon and protect Galilee communities without holding a security strip and paying such a high price in blood."

In his speech Friday, Netanyahu accused Syria of blocking any deal from being made in southern Lebanon as a means of putting pressure on Israel.

Many weapons are shipped to Hizballah from Iran via Damascus.

"If Syria wanted to, I'm sure that it could stop these Hizballah attacks," Netanyahu said.

"But it is using Lebanon as a surrogate battlefield to put pressure on Israel in a variety of ways."

EU, B'nai B'rith push people-to-people panel

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The peace process' people-to-people committee is receiving a strong boost from the European Union and from B'nai B'rith International, the world's biggest Jewish organization.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur said EU peace envoy Miguel Moratinos expressed "readiness to take the lead" in furthering the committee's projects. Bentsur is its Israeli chairman.

"Moratinos said the EU is willing to enter on a big scale," Bentsur said.

In a parallel move, B'nai B'rith International President Tommy Baer informed Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat that he wants to help advance the committee's projects.



Praying together

Members of Rabbis for Human Rights, Bat Shalom and of the Jahalin Beduin tribe pray Friday at the campsite near Ma'alot Adumim from which the tribe was recently evicted.

(Bryon McBurney)

IDF: Hizballah waging propaganda war

By DAVID FUDGE

Senior IDF officers accused Hizballah yesterday of stepping up a propaganda effort so as to portray itself as victorious in all its battles with the IDF and the South Lebanese Army.

Even old video footage is sometimes used in the psychological war being waged by the extremist Shi'ite organization, the officers said.

"Lately we have been witnessing a massive propaganda campaign on radio and television by the terrorists in Lebanon, but mainly through the auspices of television in Israel," Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, the newly-appointed commander of IDF forces in Lebanon, told a briefing.

"The bottom line is that the terrorists show films, but the bodies they leave with us," Gerstein said.

In the past, Hizballah would aim its propaganda at the SLA and civilians in the security zone. Lately it is said to be actively trying to sway Israeli public opinion as well. The organization is even said to be contemplating setting up a satellite television station that would broadcast programs in Hebrew.

Senior officers accused Hizballah of twisting or fabricating facts when reporting an incident. On Friday Hizballah was quick to announce on its radio station

that its "holy fighters" had taken control of part of the SLA's Ghazlan position, had unfurled their flag and were rebuffing IDF attempts to regain the outpost.

Yet only a handful of gunmen had managed to get relatively close to the position and the attack itself was repulsed. The attackers left the bodies of three comrades behind, as well as large quantities of weapons and equipment, as they retreated under cover of heavy long-range fire.

"Our soldiers opened fire at them and succeeded in killing two out of four gunmen who had approached the position," said paratroop battalion commander Lt.-Col. "K".

He said that although four paratroopers were wounded by long-range missile fire, the soldiers managed to force the attackers to flee.

The IDF does not often put the bodies of gunmen killed in clashes on public display. But yesterday the corpses of two gunmen, covered by sacks, were shown to the cameras along with the arms and ammunition the attackers left behind after their abortive assault on Ghazlan.

The photographs appeared to be a signal to Hizballah - which has not been announcing its casualties lately so as not to harm morale - that IDF retaliation is not necessarily confined to the battlefield.



B'nai B'rith head Tommy Baer

B'nai B'rith's local director, Alan Schneider, who attended the Arafat-Baer meeting in Gaza, quoted the Palestinian leader as saying he regards the people-to-

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Hoenelein: US Jews' ties with Israel must 'change climate'

By ELLI WOHLGELER

The relationship between Israelis and American Jews is going through a maturation process after 50 years, and the differences between the two communities "have to begin to be addressed in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We have to change the climate, the nature of the debate, the rhetoric has to change — and these are things we have to work on together," according to Malcolm Hoenelein, executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, which opens its annual four-day leadership mission today.

Despite the controversies, he said, "the bottom line is, our fate is mutual, and people who are thinking understand it, regardless of whatever differences do come up. What we have to do is begin to put those differences in proper context, begin to help each side understand the other side better."

Hoenelein said that even after 50 years, "as much as we assume we know one another, the fact is that we know very little about one another. The media here does not really talk about who are American Jews. They

portray us as people who come here twice a year and tell the government what to do. They don't know."

As the representative of 55 American Jewish organizations, the President's Conference is the voice of the Jewish community's establishment, trying to put forth a unified voice on all issues of concern to the largest Jewish community in the world. It is not always easy. One main sticking point between the two communities, of course, is the religious issue, the debate over who is a Jew and how much legitimacy the Reform and Conservative streams of Judaism can have in Israel.

"On most of the issues we've been able to develop a consensus," said Hoenelein. "Is it harder when you have the Neuman Commission and all that stuff going on? Sure it affects it, but we don't deal with the issue. And there is a consensus not to, which is also important. It was decided many years ago that this issue does not belong on the conference's agenda, because it would be divisive, and you can't deal with halachic issues on the basis of consensus."

One issue where there is unity is on relations between the US and Israel.

In a letter to President Bill Clinton before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit in February, the President's Conference noted its displeasure over the way matters of concern between the US and Israel were being leaked to the press, rather than being dealt with directly between the two governments, and that anything that appears to diminish the special relationship is harmful.

"The president wrote back and said: 'You're right, this is not the way we want to deal with Israel,' and he defined the special relationship in the most forceful terms — really forceful terms," Hoenelein said.

He and conference chairman Melvin Salberg then met with Clinton the day before Netanyahu's visit. "He said: 'I like Netanyahu, I want to work with him. I have concerns about the peace process. Look, he's frustrated, he wants to see it move forward. But he was very strong on all the essentials. He said: 'I'm going to maintain the qualitative [military] edge, it's unshakable, it's not going to depend on anything. I'm not going to second guess, and I'm not going to impose [a solution].'" Hoenelein said.



Marking Rabin's birthday

Leah Rabin stands at the monument to her late husband in Tel Aviv's Kikar Rabin on Friday afternoon, at a ceremony held for Yitzhak Rabin's 76th birthday, which is today. Today it will be marked by the placing of wreaths on the armored cars on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway near Sha'ar Hagai and by members of Dor Shalom lighting 5,000 memorial candles in Kikar Rabin.

(Dan Ossendyev/Israel Sun)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Secrecy in the spotlight

The exposure of the latest operational failure in Switzerland placed the Mossad at the focus of Hebrew press reports and commentaries this weekend. Most analysts believe the fallout from the affair will be minimal and that the incident attracted publicity only due to its proximity to the release of the Czechoslovak Report on the Mashael Affair.

"Switzerland of the last week is certainly the lesser of two evils, as far as we are concerned," writes Ma'ariv's Eli Kamir, adding that it will not damage the motivation of the Swiss government to maintain good relations with Israel.

Yedioth Aharonot's Nahum Barnea and Shimon Shifter state that the Swiss government did not intend to make an issue of the affair and planned to convey its protest only after the last Mossad agent was released.

"The only problem was that the Swiss did not take into account the internal conflicts in the Mossad," they write, paraphrasing the statement of a defense source on the surprising connection between Switzerland and the wave of leaks in the Mossad. "Apparently, in our Mossad there are more holes than in Swiss cheese."

Ha'aretz's Ze'ev Schiff claims that the emphasis on the mishap was tripled because of the attention that the Mossad currently draws.

"The Geneva affair is another reminder that a reevaluation on the matter of war against terrorism is needed ... otherwise we will learn

in the future that the Mossad was sent to operate in Washington, near Capital Hill."

Balance of power

The solution of the Iraqi crisis through UN intervention has strengthened the UN's status vis a vis that of the US. Some commentators reexamine the US's role as the sole superpower.

Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev states that the American public does not trust Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and came out from the crisis with a sense of a missed opportunity.

"President Clinton came out of the Iraqi crisis with a broken tooth and a swollen eye," writes Shalev.

Ha'aretz's Zvi Barel writes that UN intervention has resulted in the US's loss of exclusivity in Iraqi matters and has damaged her status in the region.

"The UN is the main beneficiary of the latest developments," writes Prof. Itamar Rabinovich in Ma'ariv, who adds that UN's rise in status will lead to "an increase in the influence of countries that hold a more forgiving approach towards Iraq."

Yedioth's Uri Elitzur focuses on the US in a broader sense, namely as the exclusive superpower. He states that this is a rare phenomenon and therefore only temporary.

He ponders over the identity of the second power that will compete with the US in the future, and guesses it will be Islam. "The Arab nation is the leading candidate for the role of a superpower in the next century."

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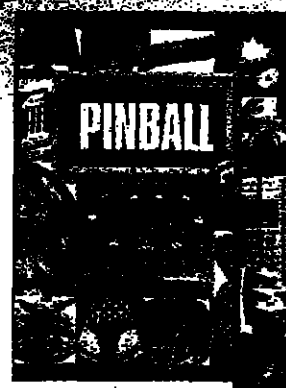
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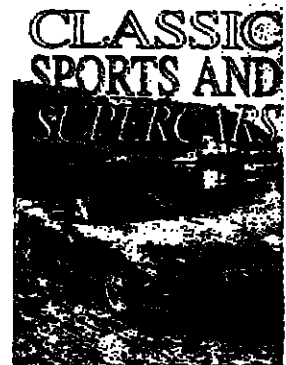
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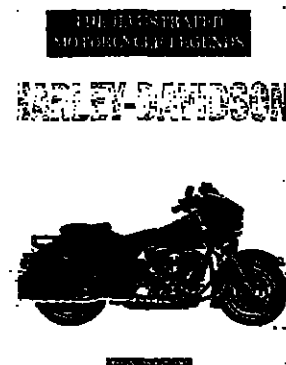
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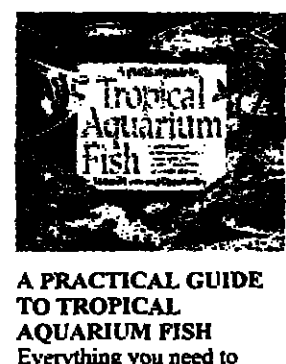
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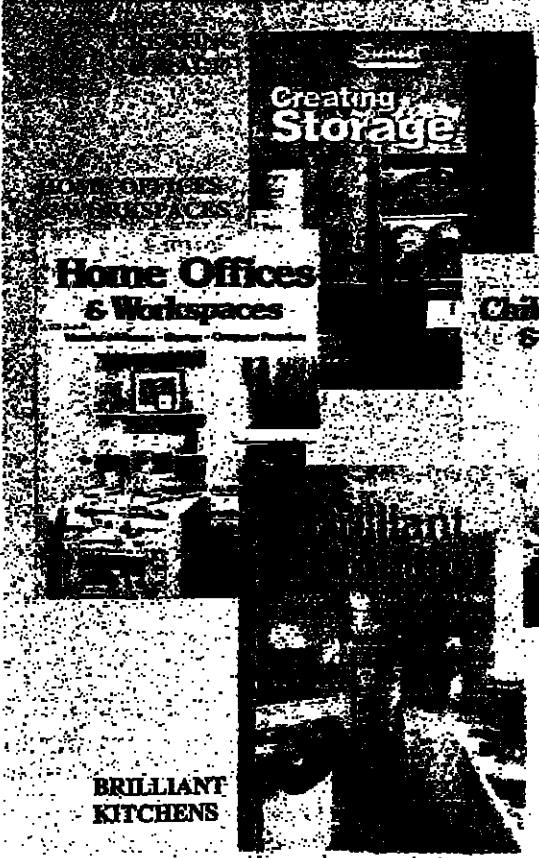
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Har-Shefi: I'm sorry I prayed Rabin would die

Taking the stand in her own defense Friday, Margalit Har-Shefi, 22, apologized for having called Yitzhak Rabin a traitor and having prayed for his death.

She has pleaded innocent to charges that she failed to report Yigal Amir's plan to kill Rabin. She was on the stand for more than four hours in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court - two hours of direct examination by her lawyer, Seffi Alon, and two hours of cross-examination by prosecutor Penina Guy.

Har-Shefi acknowledged that she told police interrogators that Rabin was a traitor and that she had prayed for him to have a heart attack and die.

She stated that she regretted those statements and that Rabin's murder was "a black stain on Israel."

She said she had heard Amir talk about killing the prime minister, but did not tell the police because she did not believe he was serious and did not want to destroy his life over what she believed was just talk.

Instead, Har-Shefi turned to Shlomo Aviner, the rabbi of her community, Beit El, and told him about Amir's statements. Aviner told her that all talk about killing the prime minister was nonsense, that *din rodef* did not apply to

Jews, and that Jews are prohibited from killing other Jews, she said.

Amir, 27, is serving a life sentence for the November 1995 assassination of Rabin at a Tel Aviv peace rally. Newspaper reports have said Amir was infatuated with Har-Shefi and may have been trying to impress her by killing the prime minister.

Har-Shefi described Amir as a "genius" and an "original thinker," but also as delusional and a liar.

She said he had problems distinguishing between imagination and reality.

She said she liked him for his mind, but that there was no romantic attachment between them.

Har-Shefi denied charges made by Amir's brother, Hagai, that she had joined an anti-Arab underground movement.

She insisted that she had given the Amir brothers false information regarding the location of Beth El's armory when they asked her to help organize such a movement so they would stop pestering her about it.

She also said Hagai Amir lied when he said she agreed to buy digital watches to be used as timers on bombs.

(News agencies)



Planting in protest

Seven-year-old Yulia Strashinski poses as she plants a tree in the Jerusalem Forest on Friday. Strashinski was one of several hundred children who participated in the tree-planting campaign, sponsored by the Jewish National Fund, to protest against continued development in the Jerusalem Forest that has reduced its area from 4,000 dunams to only 1,500 dunams.

(Ariel Jerozolimski)

Lithuanians to charge second Nazi war suspect

VILNIUS (Reuters) - Lithuania said on Friday it is pressing charges against a second man alleged to have helped in the murder of Jews during World War II.

The prosecutor's office said it would press charges against Kazys Gimzhauskas, a former security police officer who denies he is guilty.

The authorities have already sent to court a case against another alleged war criminal, Aleksandras Lileikis, the first stage of his trial is expected next week.

"Kazys Gimzhauskas, while being subordinate to the Nazi German occupation authorities, is accused of assisting in the physical extermination of Lithuanian citizens who were ethnic Jews," said a statement from the Lithuanian prosecutor's office.

Gimzhauskas, 89, was second-in-command to Lileikis, 91, who

was in charge of the Vilnius security police in World War II. Both are alleged to have signed documents authorizing the handing over of Jews to be murdered.

The Holocaust decimated Lithuania's pre-war Jewish population of 220,000, with German forces occasionally assisted by locals.

"I totally disagree with these accusations and the prosecutor's office will find out that I am innocent," Gimzhauskas told Reuters. "I am an ill person, lying in bed, and I can't tell you anything more."

The prosecutions of the two men follow persistent protests from the Simon Wiesenthal Center that Lithuania is dragging its feet in the prosecution of Nazi-era war criminals.

Lithuania had previously said it was difficult to prepare cases for crimes that occurred 50 years ago.

Young cancer victims' parents seek new laws

By JUDY SIEGEL

Parents of children suffering from cancer have complained to Health Minister Yehoshua Matza that many of them have been fired from their jobs and suffer enormous financial burdens to care for them.

In a meeting with members of HAIME, a voluntary organization for young cancer victims, Matza heard that many parents are either forced to resign so they can take their children for treatment, or the employer takes the initiative and dismisses them.

"A parent who takes the 60 vacation days allowed by the law finds himself in an impossible position," said Ofer Even, chairman of the organization.

In addition, families have to spend large sums on transportation to and from the hospital and buying equipment, from hearing

aids to elastic braces, and medications not included in the basket of health services.

The organization is seeking legislation that would give parents of cancer victims three months' vacation a year, paid for by the National Insurance Institute.

In addition, Even said, "We want an allotment equaling 70 percent of a parent's former salary if he can no longer work because he has to take care of the child."

The organization also noted that if the patient is over 18, the family is entitled to no benefits, even though many parents continue to take care of older children, including soldiers whose disease was diagnosed during military service.

Matza asked for a list of their requests and said he would discuss them with other cabinet ministers and the health funds.

Poll: Religious UK Jews care more for Israel than secular

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

If current trends continue, attachment to Israel and interest in Zionism among British Jews could be limited to mostly traditional or Orthodox Jews, according to a study of "The Attachment of British Jews to Israel" by the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.

The findings note a "strikingly clear" pattern of increased ties to Israel as the degree of commitment to traditional Judaism increases.

According to the data, which had a margin of error of 2 percent, 86% of those who said they had a "strictly Orthodox" religious outlook had a strong attachment to Israel, 12% a moderate one, 1% had negative feelings.

Among traditional Jews, 58% had a strong attachment, 33% a moderate one, 8% no special attachment, and 1% negative.

However, only 36% of Progressive Jews, 29% who described themselves as "just Jewish," and 19% "secular" said they had strong attachments to Israel. A total of 33% of the secular Jews had no special attachment to Israel, while 7% had negative feelings.

Twenty-two percent of the 2,194 British Jews polled for the survey, conducted in 1995, said they had never visited Israel, and another 12% had not been here in 10 years.

The other 66% percent had visited at least once in that period, some several times.

Almost seven out of 10 said they had close family or friends here, indicating increased social

connections between Israel and British Jews.

According to Barry Kosmin, Antony Lerman, and Jacqueline Goldberg, who authored the study for the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, an independent think tank which tries to influence opinion and decision-making on issues affecting Jewish life worldwide, the figures show "a strikingly clear pattern of strengthening attachment to Israel as the degree of commitment to traditional Judaism rises."

Older members of the community had a significantly stronger connection than younger ones, the poll found, while women were found to be closer to Israel than men.

Asked to identify themselves as either more British or more Jewish, 18% felt "more British

than Jewish," 54% felt "equally British and Jewish," and 26% said they felt "more Jewish than British," while 2% were unsure. The percentage feeling more Jewish than British was highest among the young, and dropped with age.

However, participation in a Zionist youth group did not have a major impact on making British Jews feel more Jewish than British.

The poll also found a drop in emotional ties to Israel among younger Jews.

Although more than a third of those aged 70-79 had no friends or relatives here, they still felt strongly connected, based largely on "ideology and emotion."

However, this was not the case among those 18-49, who also lack such personal connections. While Israel once enjoyed

wide-ranging support in the UK, that also is changing, the poll found. "Whereas Israel once appealed to radicals and later to all denominations in the community, as time passes it looks as if increasingly it will appeal more to Traditional and Orthodox Jews than to others," the authors wrote.

Political support for Israel is largely colored by religious outlook, with 55% of the strictly Orthodox and 24% of traditional Jews opposed to land for peace, compared to overwhelming support among secular, "just Jewish" and Progressive Jews.

Students, Health Ministry resolve dispute

By JUDY SIEGEL

An arrangement to help up to 100 medical students who in the mid-1980s studied abroad but failed to pass local internship-qualification examinations has been reached after 10 years of disputes between the Health Ministry and the students.

The Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee recently passed a regulation enabling Israeli students who studied medicine outside the country before the test was required to take a one-year preparatory course at a local medical school at Health Ministry expense.

A decade ago, the Knesset passed a law requiring medical school graduates to take a qualifying exam before being given a license to practice. Those who left Israel to study before the law demanded to be licensed without having to take the test.

It is believed that up to 100 graduates of foreign medical schools -

mostly in Italy, Romania, Russia, and Hungary - are eligible for the benefit. All of them failed the internship-qualification exam once and many failed repeatedly.

In the past, the ministry organized one-month refresher courses, but this was not enough to help them pass, as they have been away from their studies for so long. The Health Ministry had argued that many of the foreign medical schools were of a lower standard than Israeli medical faculties, and that if the graduates did not pass the qualifying exam, they should not be allowed to practice medicine.

Prof. Joseph Schenker of Hadassah-University Hospital, who is chairman of the Examiners Board for Internship and Licensing, said the ministry agreed to cover the NIS 1 million cost of the courses after committee chairman Maxim Levy threatened to allow all the students to practice medicine without a qualifying exam.

Three of the four medical schools in the country (not yet that of the Hebrew University-Hadassah) have agreed to prepare a special course. The arrangement will not include students who went abroad to study medicine after the law setting qualifying exams was passed.

The Israel Medical Association (IMA), which welcomed the decision, had been concerned that allowing the graduates into the profession without high enough standards would lower the level of Israeli medicine.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar praised the committee for its work, saying the resolution is balanced between the need to solve the problem of people who began studying abroad years ago and the need to protect public health. The new arrangement ensures that only those who have been proven to meet the standards may treat patients.

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Russian cabinet shakeup: Yeltsin fires 3 ministers

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin fired three top members of his administration yesterday, three days after warning that he intended to fire the "culprits" responsible for Russia's economic woes.

Yeltsin's office announced that the president had fired his transportation and education ministers, along with a deputy prime minister, Valery Serov.

The official reason given was that the officials are moving to other jobs. But Yeltsin had warned on Thursday that he intended to identify those responsible for the country's woeful economic state and fire them.

He issued the threat at the beginning of a government meeting to

assess Russia's economic performance in 1997, and said three cabinet members would lose their jobs by the end of the meeting.

Before the meeting was over, Yeltsin abruptly walked out of the room, with all members of his cabinet still employed. The incident was the latest in a series of seemingly erratic statements or actions by Yeltsin.

At that same meeting, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had singled out Serov for criticism, saying he had failed in his mandate to build strong ties with other former Soviet republics.

Neither the transportation minister, Nikolai Tsakh, nor the education minister, Vladimir Kinyolov, were specifically criticized at the

meeting. However, both oversee divisions of government that have been widely criticized for failing to adapt to changing times.

A government spokesman said Kinyolov signed a letter of resignation on Thursday to take a job as director of the Moscow-based UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

The spokesman, Igor Shabdrasulov, said he didn't know what jobs Tsakh and Serov were taking.

Yeltsin frequently reshuffles his cabinet, and is known for laying blame on others for failures that might otherwise be considered his own.

India exit polls show Hindu nationalists near a majority

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — India's Hindu nationalist party and its allies may win 244 parliament seats in the national elections, 28 short of the majority required to form a government, exit polls showed yesterday.

State-run Doordashan television said after voting ended in the last main phase of the staggered election that the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) may leave its arch-rival Congress party far behind on 140 seats.

The polls, carried out by Development and Research Services among 26,000 voters in 120 constituencies nationwide, predicted that the BJP would see an increase of 59 seats from the 1996 elections and Congress would lose three.

The United Front multi-party coalition, whose minority government fell in December when Congress withdrew its support, would lose 53 parliamentary seats with a tally of 118.

The party or group that forms the next government has to occupy at least 272 seats in the 545-member lower house of parliament.

Six constituencies have still not voted in the elections, which have been marred by violence and widespread reports of vote-rigging since they began on February 16. Doordashan said the overall prediction was based on opinion poll trends in three constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir which vote next Saturday.



Kashmir separatists hold banners calling for independence and a boycott of the Indian general elections during clashes yesterday in Srinagar, a predominantly Moslem region, during the fourth phase of India's elections. (AP)

Eight die in Pakistani violence

By AMIR ZIA

KARACHI, Pakistan (Reuters) — At least eight people were killed and 29 wounded yesterday in two bomb attacks in a densely populated neighborhood of Karachi and in gunfire between two rival ethnic factions, government sources and witnesses said.

Police said seven people were killed by time bombs that ripped through two shops in Al-Asif Square in the Malir district of Karachi, the violence-plagued capital of the southern province of Sindh.

One person was killed in gunfire between activists of the ethnic Muthida National Movement and a breakaway rival group in the city's Korangi district, the official APP news agency said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks, which followed two bomb blasts in a train and a bus in the central province of Punjab on Thursday and Friday that killed seven people and wounded 56.

Ambulance workers earlier said they had picked up six bodies after the latest blasts.

"The bodies were blown into small pieces and could hardly be identified," Reuters photographer Sahib Hussar said.

"Time bombs containing 400 grams of TNT... were used in these blasts," Malir district's Senior Superintendent of Police, Nadir Chose, said. "The bombs were placed under the shops." Witnesses said one of the shops hit were a general store and one that sold audio cassettes.

The area is dominated by the ethnic Pashtuns, who held protests after the recent elopement of a Pashtun girl with a man from the dominant Mohajir ethnic group.

The Pashtuns had alleged that the girl was kidnapped, but she denied the allegation in court on Thursday and said she had married the man she loved.

Karachi's Mohajir-dominated population of more than 12 million includes more than two million Pashtuns. Most are engaged in transport, trade and the construction industry.

More than 60 people have been killed in ethnic, sectarian and political violence in Karachi so far this year. More than 400 such killings occurred last year, some 500 in 1996 and about 2,000 in 1995.

US worried about Indonesian trouble

SINGAPORE (AP) — The United States has put a high priority on preventing Indonesia from sliding further into instability, the commander of US forces in the Pacific said yesterday.

"The potential for instability has been high on our list for a while," Admiral Joseph W. Prueher said in an interview.

The Commander-in-Chief of the US Pacific Command, on a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia, added that Indonesia's current path toward an "unstable condition" has caught "the attention of us all." Prueher stressed the importance of US involvement on every level. "It is being worked on the economic front, the political front, and the military front to try to help Indonesia get a firm grip on their situation," he said, noting that "it's the primary discussion topic everywhere we go."

"We are staying in steady communication with the Indonesian

military, both through our embassy and our defense attaches there," Prueher added.

The sprawling archipelago has seen its currency, the rupiah, lose more than 70 percent of its value since the onset last summer of Southeast Asia's currency crisis.

Runs on staple foods, bank and business closures, rising unemployment, and rioting have sent jitters through world markets.

Though growth has slowed across much of Southeast Asia, the Clinton administration has singled out Indonesia for special attention.

Former US Vice-President Walter Mondale is on a mission to the Indonesian capital Jakarta, where he tries to persuade President Suharto to keep commitments he made to obtain a \$40 billion bailout from the IMF.

"What we must try to do is help the Indonesians avert a crisis in every way we can, and we're try-

ing to do that without being too invasive into their processes, where they feel like they are excessively pressured from outside," Admiral Prueher said.

The attention toward Indonesia comes amid a restructuring of US joint military activities with various Asian nations because of the economic crisis.

Prueher said the United States is trying "to work with the leadership here to adjust the size, and the shape and the timing of our activities with the militaries so that it is more accommodating to a restricted budget on their part."

But he added that "US interest in the Asia Pacific region, and especially in Southeast Asia now, remains extremely high."

He pointed to the "steady stream of high-level US visitors who have visited the region" recently, including US Commerce Secretary Daley and Defense Secretary Cohen.

Three die in Kashmir election revolt

SRINAGAR (Reuters) — A boycott called by Kashmiri separatists curbed voting in Srinagar yesterday and three people were reported killed in insurgency-linked violence in the state during India's general elections.

Kashmiris appeared to heed the boycott call as voters emerged in only nervous trickles in this tense city.

A grenade thrown in the heart of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, did not wound anyone. Border Security Force officers defused an explosive device on the outskirts of the city.

"There have been no incidents in the entire constituency of Srinagar related to polling," PS Gill, inspector-general of police, told a news conference.

But at Sopore, 48 kilometers north, another grenade attack killed two children and wounded

10 people. In the Doda district of the Jammu region, 350 km. south, a trooper was killed and five wounded during a gunbattle with guerrillas.

Jammu and Kashmir is the only Muslim majority state in Hindu-dominated India, and for eight years has been in the grip of a separatist uprising which has cost an estimated 25,000 lives.

Shops throughout Srinagar district remained closed, observing a two-day strike called by the separatist All Parties Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference. A power outage in most of the city added to the wintry gloom of the Himalayan state.

Security forces lined the city's streets, and at one place police used tear gas to subdue youths throwing stones and chanting slogans for a free Kashmir.

SV Bhavne, the state's chief elec-

toral officer, said that early estimates of voter turnout were no more than 36 percent.

Police arrested some of the Hurriyat leaders earlier in the week to stop them appealing to people not to vote.

Srinagar was the only one of the state's six constituencies in India's Lok Sabha, or lower house of parliament, to vote yesterday and security forces lined the streets to head off any trouble.

Jammu voted on February 16. Three constituencies will vote on March 7 and one snowbound constituency will vote in June.

At a polling station in Batamalo,

a Srinagar locality, only seven out of 1,260 registered voters had cast ballots by noon — after the booth had been open for five hours.

Among the few early voters were leading candidate Omar Abdullah, his wife and father, and Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, who heads the National Conference which rules the state assembly.

The National Conference was a constituent member of the United Front alliance which resigned from power last November.

The party advocates working with the New Delhi government as Kashmir's best chance of restoring peace.

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Author fined for denying Holocaust

PARIS (AP) — A French court fined an author \$ 20,000 for writing a book that questioned whether six million Jews died in the Holocaust.

The author, 84-year-old Roger Garaudy, who converted to Islam in 1982, claims he is not antisemitic, but anti-Zionist.

In his 1996 book, *The Founding Myths of Israeli Politics*, Garaudy questioned the number of Jews that the Nazis murdered in World War II and denounced the "Shoah business."

Garaudy, not present at the ruling, was convicted on charges of contesting crimes against humanity, which carries a maximum \$50,000 fine and one year in jail.

Shortly after the ruling was announced, a group of Jewish extremists in the court-

room clashed with some Arab journalists and shouted: "Garaudy Nazi, Garaudy to Jail."

During his trial which began in January, Garaudy said that "The fight against Zionism is part of the fight against anti-Semitism," and that he "respected Judaism."

In his book, Garaudy refers to the extermination of six million Jews as "a myth" and said it has become a "justifying dogma" for "all exactions of the Israeli state in Palestine, in the entire Mideast, in the United States ... and world politics."

He claimed Holocaust survivors had testified about the existence of gas chambers by referring to "what they had heard about, rather than what they'd seen."

Two British reporters missing in Bosnia

SARAJEVO (Reuters) — Two journalists working for an independent television production company based in the northwest England city of Liverpool went missing on Friday night in southern Bosnia, Bosnian state radio reported yesterday.

The radio did not name the company, but a representative of it, Maurice Alexander, said in an interview with the station that the two reporters had gone missing while working near the village of Medjugorje, a major Roman Catholic place of pilgrimage known for its reported sightings of the Virgin Mary.

His interview was broadcast by the radio in the Moslem-controlled part of the town of Mostar.

The journalists, named in the interview

as Michael Grimes and Jeffrey Pickett, were said to have been investigating the possible misuse of humanitarian aid sent by Western governments for children in Bosnia.

Bosnian Croat police said they had found an abandoned car, which had been driven by the two British journalists, near the town of Citluk.

"Local police informed us that they discovered a vehicle with its windows smashed which was used by British reporters," a spokesman for the United Nations Bosnia mission, Liam McDowell, said.

Croat police told the UN mission the abandoned vehicle, a white Fiat Tempra, had registration plates from the Adriatic port of Split in neighboring Croatia.



Watching the wildfires

A mother and child watch wildfires as they blacken a forest on the horizon in the outskirts of Balikpapan, 1,200 kilometers northeast of Jakarta on Friday. Dry winds whipped up dozens of such fires on Borneo island, threatening villages and destroying many trees.

Californians move homes before mud slides

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — If a wall of mud were sliding toward your house, what would you do? Most folks would probably grab the dog and run.

Some families in the San Francisco suburb of San Leandro who decided to flee took their homes with them — at least part of the way.

They moved the houses off their foundations and shifted them 10 meters toward the sidewalk, giving engineers time to figure out how to control the sliding earth.

The effort is worth it, because insurance companies don't cover landslides.

The steep, grassy slope behind appts named Hillside Drive is soaked from weeks of almost constant El Nino-fueled rain. So wet it can't absorb another drop, the soft-ened earth began sliding around a week ago. As it slid, it pushed the houses two centimeters or more in the air.

Of seven threatened homes, two have already made the short trip to the curb,

while a third may be moved later. The city is fronting the \$15,000 or so it will cost to move the houses, which are worth about \$275,000 each. The homeowners will have to pay the city back.

"The city is taking the bull by the horns and saying, 'We'll pay,'" said Elvyn Howell, whose construction company moved the houses. "By the time the owners arranged for the money (to pay for the move), the houses would be gone." The

next step is taking care of that hill.

"We're preparing a map that covers the entire hill and shows the limits of the landslide," said Bill Cotton, an engineer with Cotton, Shires and Associates of Los Gatos.

With that information, the homeowners and city can choose a plan. "We can try brute force; building a system of walls to hold the hillside back," he said. "Or we can take all the moving material out, haul it out and reconstruct the hillside with the same material."

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Grammys: Just desserts Henny Youngman dies at 91

By ROBERT HILBURN

It helped to be named Dylan during the Grammy Awards on Wednesday.

After being ridiculed for bypassing the most celebrated songwriter of the rock era in the prestigious best album category for more than three decades, the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences — with its credibility on the line — finally tried to make up for lost time.

The academy members not only voted Dylan three awards, including best album, but they also made sure they weren't ever going to be accused of overlooking a Dylan again, so they threw in two awards for Dylan's son, Jakob.

In fact, you got the feeling that the Dylan momentum was so strong in Radio City Music Hall that if the kids who recorded "MMMBop" had been named Dylan instead of Hanson, they would have walked away with the best record victory. Instead, it went to Shawn Colvin's creditable, but less memorable, "Sunny Came Home."

The reassuring thing about the strong Dylan showing was that the singer-songwriter's victory in the best album category wasn't just a token vote. *Time Out of Mind* — whose lyrics, producer Daniel Lanois said during the telecast, "were hard, were deep, were desperate and were strong" — was the year's most compelling album.

Part of the impact of Dylan's album is seeing a man who was hailed as the voice of '60s idealism looking at life further down the line and startling listeners with the bluntness of his observations about how time strips us of options and dreams.

The awards for Jakob Dylan, including a best song victory for his "One Headlight," were also well earned. The tune, which he recorded with his band, the Wallflowers, had much of the classic commentary and grace of his dad's best numbers.

The fact that the music is worthy, however, was a bonus. In some ways, the academy voters had no choice but to honor Dylan.

Ever since they failed to even nominate him for such '60s landmarks as "Highway 61 Revisited," Dylan has been a symbol of the worst voting ten-



Johnny cashes in, winning Best Country Album at the grand old Grammys.

dencies of an awards process that tends to reward conservative, mainstream forces rather than the most challenging and innovative ones.

To put things in perspective, Dylan — with his three new Grammys — has only now pulled ahead of Celine Dion in career Grammys. (Dylan's earlier Grammys were for secondary efforts, long past his most influential period.) While trying to make up for the years of Dylan neglect, the academy members also finally got around to honoring other

deserving veterans.

John Fogerty, who never won a Grammy for the marvelous music he made in the '60s and '70s with Creedence Clearwater Revival, was a popular choice for Best Rock Album.

Elton John, who has won only three Grammys, picked up a fourth for Male Pop Vocal.

Johnny Cash, who hadn't won in the country field since 1970, won Best Country Album.

And Van Morrison picked up his second career Grammy for his pop collaboration with John

Lee Hooker.

Equally important, the academy saluted some outstanding young talents, notably Erykah Badu and Fiona Apple. The disappointment was that both lost in the best new artist category to the pedestrian Paula Cole. Radiohead was a splendid choice for best alternative recording.

All in all, not a bad night for the Grammy voters.

But then again, how far wrong can you go when you've got the name Dylan on the ballot five times? (AP)

By LARRY MCSHANE

Henny Youngman, the Borscht Belt comic dubbed the king of one-liners for cracks like the immortal "Take my wife — please," has died. He was 91.

Youngman died Tuesday of complications from the flu at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, said Jackie Green, a friend and Friars Club dean emeritus.

Youngman became the quintessential comedian of the Catskills, a resort area for New York's Jewish community, developing a schtick unrivaled through seven decades in show business: snappy one-liners and rapid-fire jokes as likely to bring a groan as a guffaw from his audience.

But his act played. Youngman appeared in countless clubs from the Catskill mountains to the Palladium in London, from Atlantic City to Las Vegas and most points in between while working more than 200 shows per year into his 70s.

His quick, near-mechanical delivery became Youngman's trademark; in 60 seconds, he could unleash a half-dozen zingers. A typical Youngman joke: "A man says to another man, 'Can you tell me how to get to Central Park?' 'No.' 'All right, I'll mug you right here.'"

Columnist Walter Winchell dubbed him "the king of the one-liners" in the 1930s. Youngman's most famous one-liner — "Take my wife — please" — was actually delivered by accident before an appearance on radio's "Kate Smith Show." A

frazzled Youngman was getting ready minutes before air time when his wife, Sadie, showed up with several friends to see the show. Youngman grabbed an usher and told him, "Take my wife, please." The comic was still using the line after his wife died in 1987 at age 82.

The comedian who became an American institution was born in England on March 16, 1906. "I was so ugly when I was born, the doctor slapped my mother," Youngman once quipped.

He arrived in New York six months later. The family settled in Brooklyn, and he grew up there, learning to play the violin at his father's urging, attending the Brooklyn Vocational Trade School, and becoming a printer.

But he was bitten by the show biz bug while working in his Manhattan print shop. Milton Berle, who was performing in a club nearby, would stop by between shows to hang out with Henny.

"I was a groupie for Berle," said Youngman. "I picked up a lot of stuff from him. Learned a lot."

Youngman's first shot at stardom came as a bandleader, the head of a group called Henny Youngman and the Swanee Syncopaters during the 1920s. Youngman's comedy career was the result of a tightwad club owner at the Swan Lake Inn in the Catskills.

Youngman was telling jokes between songs at the club. The owner fired the band and hired Henny as a comic, and the rest was hysteria.

"My whole life's an accident," he once said. "I've never planned anything. It's just all happened."



What happened next was several years of doing the comedy circuit before Youngman's big break: a two-year stint with Smith's popular CBS television network radio show.

His father had hoped that Youngman might some day play violin with the Metropolitan Opera orchestra. That never happened but he used the fiddle as a prop in his act, playing a few bars to break up the gags.

The peripatetic comedian continued working through his 85th birthday, appearing briefly in the Martin Scorsese gangster epic *GoodFellas* and working with Steven Spielberg on his *Tiny Toons* cartoons series.

At 90, he attended a ceremony where a Manhattan street corner was named for him.

On his 91st birthday, he summoned reporters to a restaurant for a reading of his "Last Will and Testament." "To my nephew Irving, who keeps asking me to mention him in my will: 'Hello, Irving!'" it read. (AP)

Better than he looks

Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

I generally have very little patience for artistic pretense. My feeling is: Either deliver the goods or get off the stage, but

AVIV GEFEN
Hollowed (Hollowed);
Red Arzi

don't waste my time with adolescent posturing.

Not surprisingly, then, Aviv Gefen has always tried my patience. What's with the makeup, I want to ask, the carefully crafted provocations, the dragging of

Daddy's famous name through the mud? It's not that the solidly mainstream Gefen makes the kind of revolutionary records for which controversy is a necessary side dish.

Moreover, my aesthetic sense screams, what's with the fact that the superstar has a lousy voice?

Be that as it may, to review *Hollowed* ("Hollowed"), Gefen's latest release, I will put prejudice aside and concentrate on what matters — the music. I will also suspend my dislike for his whiny, strained tones and accept — momentarily — that the ability to sing is simply not a prerequisite in our music industry.

Under those circumstances, I have to admit that *Hollowed* is a pretty good little album. Gefen has dipped into a number of respectable styles (Beatles-esque pop, U2-esque dance-influenced rock) and turned out a tight, respectable entry in end-of-the-century rock 'n' roll.

Judicious use of the unusual (an opera singer, oddly processed vocals) keeps the sound fresh. And while the jury is still out as to whether Gefen makes tough statements so as to change the world or grab headlines, his lyrics invariably

ask his (generally young) fans to think.

"You'll say that I'm depressive and weird," he sings in "Hamilhama Haba" ("The Next War"). "But one day you'll understand/ we held it in our hands."

In "Heder, Katan" ("Little Room"), Gefen plays on the hello/good-bye dichotomy of "shalom": "Shalom little room/ I don't hide here anymore/ Shalom old nightmare/ I no longer dream you at night," he sings, creating the impression of a long-healed man visiting old wounds.

But the final line, with its echoes in recent history, lets us know that the healing has only begun and he's just taking leave of the pain, perhaps for the first time: "Shalom haver! forget everything we planned."

Bottom line: If you can take the voice and don't mind the antics, *Hollowed* is worth the outlay of cash.

DID YOU KNOW?

Q: Who is Aviv Gefen's famous dad?
A: Writer, lyricist, comedian Yonatan Gefen.

Her voice and career soar

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

In 1992 a young Austrian-born, German-raised soprano arrived in Israel to study voice with Tamar Rachum at Tel Aviv University.

"I was searching desperately for a voice teacher," recalls Natasha Petrinky. Today, her career is soaring, as she performs in prestigious locales all over the world.

Petrinsky, who will sing with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra for the first time next week, reminisces about her upbringing.

"My parents are Jewish but I wasn't brought up as a Jew. Initially I was raised as a Catholic and then as a Protestant. But I always knew there was this other part in me too, so coming to study in Israel had an extra-special dimension."

After four years of vocal studies in Tel Aviv, Petrinky now makes her home in Bochum, Germany, where she lives with American-Israeli conductor Steven Sloane, whom she met in Tel Aviv when both were involved in a production of Janacek's opera *Jenufa*.

"Unfortunately, I do not perform a lot with Steven. Next year I will do my first Kundry in Wagner's *Parsifal* with Steven and his orchestra in Bochum. But he usually travels west to conduct in England and the USA, while I seem to perform east of Bochum. In Italy and other German cities."

Petrinsky's career changed dramatically one day in Munich a couple of years ago. "I had just returned to my apartment in Munich after covering and doing one performance of Mercedes in *Carmen* in Tel Aviv. I heard that



Soprano Natasha Petrinky debuts with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Giuseppe Sinopoli was auditioning singers for the role of Mercedes, so I went and was immediately engaged."

Petrinsky recorded Mercedes with Sinopoli (the disc is already out on Teldec) and immediately embarked on a close association with the Italian maestro with whom she performed Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* in Rome a few months ago and with whom she will make her Bayreuth Festival debut in the summer of 2000, singing *Wellgunde* in both *Das Rheingold* and *Götterdämmerung*.

In between, there are concerts in Tel Aviv this week with Sinopoli and the IPO.

Petrinsky has nothing but praise for Sinopoli. "He is very precise and knows exactly what he is conducting and what he wants to achieve." She adds that Sinopoli is great with singers. "He is very intensive in his preparations and he talks about motives and many other minute details and background."

Comparing Sinopoli to her own partner on the podium, she sug-

gests that "Steven has a lot in common with him, but he also works more on intuition."

Petrinsky is enjoying her flourishing career: singing in the leading concert halls and opera houses of the world, projecting her warm and sensual instrument.

It is somewhere between mezzo-soprano and soprano, leaning more naturally to mezzo roles — a voice not easily categorized.

The Germans have a term for it, "Zwischenfach" (something in between), which also describes Petrinky herself. "I was brought up in Germany and I am German, but in my heart I'm Israeli. Steven and I have been discussing that when we have children, we would like them to grow up in Israel."

Natasha Petrinky performs *Mahler's Third Symphony* with the IPO Tuesday through Thursday in Tel Aviv.

Delayed gratification



By Norm Guthartz

How often have you heard people say, "I enjoy listening to all kinds of music, but jazz is too hard to get into?" This is definitely *not* the album

UNBROKEN LINE
Roberta Piket
(Jazz Ear)

for them. But serious jazz listeners will find a lot to like on the debut disc by Roberta Piket. It's on the Dutch Criss Cross label, released locally on Jazz Ear.

Piket is a New York pianist who counts McCoy Tyner, Chick Corea, Bill Evans and Herbie Hancock among her influences. At 33, she has already backed such headlines as hard-bop saxophonist Benny Golson, singer Joe Williams and avant-garde trumpeter Ted Curson, and has led her own group.

She shows her stuff as a bandleader, composer and soloist on nine tracks, all but two of which go for more than six minutes. That leaves plenty of room for her to develop complex arrangements and for the musicians to see how much further they can take the numbers.

Piket contributed five compositions, which find her keeping one foot in the groundwork laid by post-bop visionaries while stretching the other way into new territory.

On "The Long, Long Wait," for example, she combines the feel of

early '60s straight-ahead jazz with some classical influences and — in Donny McCaslin's yearning soprano sax solo — the kind of modal lyricism that marked ECM recordings through the '70s and '80s.

Piket often takes a spare approach which gives a tense edge to her lyrical passages, making you anticipate the next note which she serves up a moment later than you'd expected. On "Always," she changes to a series of fuller notes, leaving enough space between them for the listener to digest what she's just played before she continues her idea.

For two tracks, Piket has done major overhauls on standards. On "The End of a Love Affair," she glides from sweetly swinging to introspective, awakening us with the occasional interjection of a discordant note.

For a pairing of Rodgers and Hammerstein songs, she starts solo with a bittersweet, almost anguished version of "You'll Never Walk Alone." That gives way to a much-altered "Some Enchanted Evening" that moves from a restrained opening to frenzied solo by guest tenorman Javon Jackson (who was with Elvin Jones's group at the Red Sea Jazz Festival in 1996). In keeping with Piket's approach, Jackson takes some standard solo phrases and stands them on their heads.

The disc benefits from fine playing by the regular members of her group. Trumpeter Scott Wendholt, for example, takes "Daily Affirmation" far afield, then touches base briefly with the melody before setting off again. McCaslin shines on both soprano and tenor, which he uses to ride the waves of tension that cut through "Second Guess," a composition which is packed with ideas and changes in mood.

But some of the most satisfying work comes from the rhythm section of drummer Jeff Williams and bassist Mike Formanek, himself an up-and-coming band leader. Formanek contributes warm, imaginative solos on several cuts. But he is especially valuable for his adroit accompaniment of Piket, alternately threading his bass lines through

the spaces in her solos and playing in unison with her. He and Williams have a strong feeling for where Piket is likely to go, and they stay with her every step of the way.

The final, title track reflects the pianist's attitude about what jazz should be: an unbroken line from the traditional to the new. Hers is a special one, bridging the styles and innovations of the mid-1960s to the future, but bypassing the 1970s avant-garde's unrestrained, unstructured blasts and the flirtation with rock and pop that characterized fusion's heyday.

By building so much into this mix of modern styles, Piket has produced an album that you may not get into on the first listen, but it will work its way into your consciousness and reward you the more you hear it.

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Changing mission

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations gathers in Jerusalem today to kick off its annual mission to Israel, this year in honor of the state's 50th anniversary. Recently, the conference celebrated its own 40th anniversary, and its long record of activism on behalf of a strong US-Israel relationship.

This year's mission reflects the evolution of the US-Israel agenda over the years. In 1974, for example, the conference organized a demonstration of 175,000 people outside United Nations headquarters in New York to protest an invitation to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to address the General Assembly. This year conference members will be meeting with Palestinian, as well as Israeli, leaders. The same group that championed ever-increasing amounts of US aid to Israel, will now be consulting on Israel's own plan to gradually phase out US economic assistance.

What has remained constant is the conference's embodiment of the concept of Jewish peoplehood that binds the world's largest Jewish community with Israel.

As the recent flap over the conversion bill illustrates, the realities of Jewish life in Israel and in America are not the same, and these differences can lead to friction. But even that friction illustrated

the passion that remains in the relationship, and the importance attached to it by both sides.

Jews are a family, for better and for worse. And like most families, the Jewish people shines most in times of crisis, and at other times oscillates between love and paternalism, guilt and dependence. As Israel becomes wealthier and more secure, and American Jews, wrestle with a symptom of their own success - assimilation - the relationship between the parts of the family will change.

Neither Israel nor American Jewry are quite ready for this change. But it is not too soon for both sides to be thinking in terms of how Israel can help American Jewry, not just receive such help.

For a long time, the struggle for Israel's physical existence sustained Jewish identity both here and in America. As the Iraqi crisis illustrates, Israel continues to face serious security threats. But as the struggle for existence becomes less urgent, a new challenge will become critical for both centers of Jewish life: the forging of Jewish identity in an era of peace, prosperity, and security.

This new struggle will demand as much concerted effort as the old one, and will demand of Israel the kind of commitment to Jewish peoplehood that the Presidents' Conference has symbolized these past 40 years.

India grapples with democracy

The most impressive aspect of Indian elections is not the results they deliver, but the fact they can be run at all. The current poll, which closed yesterday, is no exception. Rightly proud of their title as the world's largest democracy, Indians are yet ready to admit it is far from being the world's exemplary democracy.

The mere statistics of an Indian election are staggering - more than 600 million people voting in five main phases over two weeks to choose 543 legislators for seats in the parliament's lower house, the Lok Sabha. (Another two are appointed by the president.) There have been 4,693 candidates, 662 registered parties and 900,000 polling stations manned by 4.5 million election officials.

These elections are India's second in less than two years and had to be called in November after the Congress Party withdrew support from the United Front coalition government. That the country has the stomach and ability to run such a colossal and costly exercise twice in such a short period is itself a testimony to the nation's respect for constitutional order. Much has been made in the media of the violence that has attended this election campaign and cost 75 lives - including some killed by terrorist bombs in Bombay. But when the incidents are put in the context of a vast and diverse country and its huge population, it is understandable why Indian commentators shrug them off as inevitable if regrettable minor outrages.

With only exit polls to indicate how the future government will take shape, it appeared that Hindu nationalists (the Bharatiya Janata Party) had made gains across the country. However even that prediction was contradicted by other exit polls and nothing is certain except that the major power blocs are faced with more fractious coalition haggling. The highlight of an otherwise lackluster campaign has been the return of Sonia Gandhi, the widow of assassinated prime minister Rajiv Gandhi. Emerging from years of seclusion, Sonia went on a vigorous campaign for the Congress Party and already is being credited with single-handedly halting a slide in the old party's fortunes. Following the assassination of Indira and then Rajiv Gandhi and the collapse of the Congress into scandal and corruption, it has seemed that the famous dynasty's day was done.

It is too early to see whether Sonia Gandhi's influence is simply a curiosity that is already spent, or whether her campaign marks the start of a long march back to influence for the Congress. Her great handicap, which opponents do not hesitate to throw in her face, is that she is Indian only by choice, and Italian by birth and upbringing. It is difficult to see how a nation of hundreds of millions of native-born Indians could ever choose a European-born woman to head their government.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SHORT-SIGHTED ZUCKER

Sir, - In your issue of Feb. 11 you note the call of MK Dedi Zucker for a constitutional court with adequate representation for women, Arabs and Sephardim (Zucker calls for constitutional court).

He also claims these new judges need not necessarily be lawyers to sit on such a court.

Now as I understand a court, it is ideally made up of people who are to be as impartial as is humanly possible. Its judges are not to be influenced by sectarian viewpoints

with regard to sex, race or creed. Certainly they are not to be picked for their political or electioneering skills, their sex or the color of their skin, but for their skill and judgment in law. Their selection is itself a delicate matter and this is a process undergoing constant revision in Israel.

Yet here a politician par excellence, Dedi Zucker, in the name of democracy must meddle and call for a court that resembles the institution he serves, viz. the Knesset. Surely one such circus is

enough in our lives without having another one to add to our troubles.

Zucker's suggestion is the result of the typical short-sightedness of many of our legislators. They sometimes make mistakes and then can't tolerate the High Court of Justice correcting these. As a citizen however, I am personally happy to have the courts protect me against these very mistakes.

PETER HIRSCHMANN
Haifa.

THE DANGER OF HALF-TRUTHS

Sir, - My good friend Mr. Paul Schram's defense ("Interpretations of history," Feb. 16) of a poster including the text: "the increased Jewish presence in Palestine at the end of the 1940's brought trouble for the Palestinian Arabs. While Jewish refugees became Israeli citizens, many Palestinian Arabs became refugees," is, to say the least, naive.

There is such a thing as stating the truth, but not the whole truth. It was not the increased Jewish presence in Palestine in the 1940s that brought trouble for the Palestinian Arabs, many of whom had fled in the wake of Jewish resettlement.

The Palestinian Arabs were troubled long before by the very return

in the 19th century of the Jews to their homeland. The Arabs reacted to this potential of a sovereign Jewish presence in Palestine that loomed more threateningly as a result of the Balfour Declaration as they saw their Muslim tradition dictated - by the sword and justifiably so.

I presume that had I or Mr. Schram been brought up as a Palestinian Arab we would have reacted in the same way. Whilst the Arabs treated their refugee problem as a political weapon Israel treated it as a humanitarian issue.

Refugee problems are unfortunately endemic. The Palestinian one pales into insignificance both in intensity and volume before the vast

refugee problems caused by conflicts in other parts of the world.

The poster, however, conveys to the uninitiated that the Palestinians are unique victims as contrasted with the gratuitous good fortune that seems always to fall to the lot of those lucky Jews. The Arabs have used these half truths to good use and regard themselves as victims of the Holocaust too, though denying it, too.

Israel may be strong but half truths and lies are stronger as Jewish history, past and present bear witness.

ARYEH NEWMAN
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On March 1, 1933, the Palestine Post reported the Reichstag fire and the subsequent fast-spreading Nazi terror throughout Germany.

50 years ago: On March 1, 1948, the Palestine Post reported that more than 51 persons were killed in

the worst day of bloodshed since the Ben-Yehuda Street bombing of February 22. The dead included 28 British soldiers, victims of a mined train, 23 Jews and an undetermined number of Arabs. Eight Jews were murdered by Arabs after Hagana guards in a foundry were disarmed by the British security forces.

25 years ago: On March 1, 1973, the Jerusalem Post reported that West German justice authorities ended their search for Martin Bormann with a ruling that a skeleton found the previous year belonged to Adolf Hitler's missing deputy.

Alexander Znielli

I DISAPPROVE OF THEIR BEHAVIOR



Apathetic no more

DAVID WEINBERG

We all know what's wrong with this country. The papers regale us every day with stories of malfeasance, wrongdoing, corruption, stupidity and evil. Abandonment of values. The troubling thing is that we Israelis seem to have grown apathetic to it all.

Everybody loves to complain about the *maraz* - the feeble national condition. Analyzing our screwed-up society is sort of an existential national sport. But isn't it time for the common folk to do something about it all? How about a little civic initiative?

This society could benefit enormously from a renewed volunteer spirit that gets us off our butts, away from that cursed television screen showing stupid sitcoms, out of our polished private villas and into the public arena.

Here's a few suggestions for the conscientious activist concerned with the refurbishment of our 50-year-old national dream:

- Preventing highway murder. Book an instructor from the National Council for the Prevention of Traffic Accidents (tel. 03-699-4361) to lecture at your child's high school. Better yet, volunteer your services to the Council, and perhaps we'll bring the annual death toll down below 500.

- Defending the backyard: After two ghastly murders in Jerusalem last month, in the heart of middle class residential neighborhoods, you'd think that the local Civil Guard precinct would be deluged with volunteers. But no one wants to be (gasp) a sucker! Easier to leave it all for the under-staffed police, and to keep complaining.

(Nevertheless, the Civil Guard is awaiting your call.)

- Absorbing olim: Cluck, cluck, just terrible, was our collective response to the shameful immigrant poverty revealed by the recent death in Lebanon of Sgt. Nikolai Rappaport. He lived with his father and sister in a tin shack. Absorption

agencies do great work in preventing this, but are hard-strapped for cash and volunteers. Start with the Zionist Forum (tel. 02-538-5823), founded by Natan Sharanaky, and offer assistance.

- Adopting soldiers: The Association for the Welfare of Israeli Soldiers (tel. 02-623-5348) is running a new campaign to raise

Analyzing our screwed-up society is an existential national sport. But isn't it time for a little civic initiative?

university scholarship funds for demobilized combat soldiers. This is a smart way both to increase motivation among our youth to volunteer for combat duty, and to reward those who take up the challenge and put themselves on the front lines.

- Teaching tolerance: Children learn verbal violence, from the Knesset and *Popolitika*, very early on, so that where the counter-education should begin. Have your local school try out a sample lesson in tolerance and mutual respect, taught by educators of the new prejudice-reduction project jointly created by Bar-Ilan University's School of Education and the Anti-Defamation League (tel. 03-531-8591).

- Protecting the environment: Builders are eating away at the green countryside, while picnickers are littering the rest. Get active in the Council for a Beautiful Israel (tel. 03-642-3111), and help save our parks and open spaces.

- Making the ultimate donation: Israel has one of the lowest rates of organ donation in the Western world, and real people suffer. The National Center for Transplants (tel.

04-854-2379) has an excellent educational film that can be shown in your neighborhood, along with sensitive speakers who will explain how organ donor cards work. And don't forget to give blood at Magen David Adom.

- Advocating peace: Security doesn't end at your own doorstep, and the peace process isn't something you decide on once every four years. Yet surveys show that most of us are content with armchair analysis, absorbing the speculative political gibberish fed to us by the week-end papers - without too much response. Whatever your perspective, don't let the politicians drag you along passively; get out there and demonstrate! Or write letters and establish a political party. (We have only 41.)

- Appreciating heritage: No need to head for the Maharishi Something-or-Other's ashram in Nepal. Machon Shai (03-534-7340) and many other Jewish identity educational outfits offer dynamic, modern, and fun study clubs that might help keep our youth out of the malls and off drugs. Values isn't a dirty word, nor is tradition.

I have three dozen other ideas, but I think the direction is clear.

Lethargy and indifference are hallmarks of a bourgeoisie, decadent society. Ours is supposed to be value-oriented, Zionist and Jewish.

Uprooting apathy is a very Jewish principle.

"He who could have protested or prevented a misdemeanor from taking place, and didn't, is himself tagged with the crime committed," teaches the Talmud (Shabbat 44b). Why brand the bystander with such responsibility? Because "all of Israel must be guarantors of one another," says the Mishna. Indeed, let's begin anew by caring for the character of our society, and getting active in repairing it.

The writer comments on current affairs.

The View From the East

DAQUD KUTTAB

At the boiling point

Early one morning in the holy month of Ramadan four years ago, an Israeli settler dressed in an IDF uniform entered Hebron's Ibrahim mosque.

Using an army-issued automatic gun, Baruch Goldstein started shooting indiscriminately at Palestinian worshippers while they were kneeling down in prayer. Twenty-nine Palestinians were killed and dozens were injured before brave Palestinians were able to hit the mass-killer on the head with a fire extinguisher.

The Hebron atrocity was roundly condemned by the international community and most Israelis, a number have refused to condemn it and have even built a memorial site for the mass-murderer in Kiryat Arba.

Of course, the home of this Jewish terrorist was not demolished. Israeli soldiers in the mosque vicinity didn't act in the defense of the innocent Muslim worshippers. Soon after, however, the Israeli army declared a curfew on Hebron (with the exception of Kiryat Arba and the vicinity of the Jewish settlers in the center of Hebron).

Nearby Shuhada Street was closed to Palestinian traffic and the central vegetable market in the center of town was closed. At first we were told that the curfew and closure were short-term preventive measures aimed at buying time until the angry Palestinians calmed down.

Today, four years later and despite an agreement signed by Benjamin Netanyahu, Shuhada Street remains closed to Palestinian traffic. Those wishing to get from one part of the city to the other have to drive a couple of kilometers, while the direct route is just a few hundred meters.

In many ways, the situation in Hebron reflects the worst Palestinian nightmare. The apartheid-like situation in Hebron, the Palestinian population suffers no matter who was killed or who killed.

peaceful intentions.

Hebron's Jewish settlers pay a lower price for electricity and water (and have a regular supply) than the Palestinians residents. They drive cars that can cross Israeli checkpoints without any problems, while

Four years after Baruch Goldstein massacred 29 Palestinians in Hebron, the apartheid-like situation there tells the Palestinian story and belies Israel's peaceful intentions

Palestinians are not allowed to drive into or through Jerusalem.

Settlers vote for their own city council and the Israeli Knesset and can leave and come back to their homes and anywhere in the world without having to wait in front of the Israeli military to get a permit to fly out of Ben-Gurion Airport. Jewish terrorists' homes are not demolished, prominent Israeli anti-peace activists don't sit in administrative detention for years without a charge.

Five-hundred Palestinian homes in the Hebron district are slated for demolition. A metal gate has been installed on the old city of Hebron, turning it into a large prison. Loudspeakers from the mosque were removed because their call to prayer disturbs the Israeli settlers.

Rowdy settler celebrations for Purim or other events are permitted out of respect for freedom of worship and tradition. Whenever anyone is killed in Hebron, the Palestinian population suffers no matter who was killed or who killed.

When a Palestinian kills Israelis, collective punishment is meant as a deterrent; when Palestinians are killed, the curfews and closures are meant to avoid friction.

Twenty years ago, when a Palestinian killed six settlers, the main bus station in the center of town was closed. The army set up a temporary base in the station's parking lot. The Israeli high court refused a request from the bus station's owners, the Islamic Waqf, to evict the army. Today the army is converting this temporary base into a permanent headquarters. Who cares that more than 300,000 people in the city and the surrounding district have no central bus station in the center of town?

PRIME Minister Netanyahu is in a rush to start a marathon Camp David-like summit to deal with the final status issues before implementation of many of the commitments of the interim plan. Although his government is committed to the Oslo Agreement, Israel's right wing prime minister may squirm about an agreement he didn't sign. But what about the Hebron deal, which he signed? Failure to implement all of its clauses leaves his credibility at an all-time low, especially in the city of Hebron four years after the massacre of innocent worshippers.

Today, Hebron is a pressure cooker at the boiling point. As a friend in Hebron told me last week, the lid is lifted by the Israelis just long enough to let out steam but not long enough for the city to calm down. And it is unlikely to do so as long as Jewish settlers believe that they have a God-given right to provoke Palestinians and the Israeli army feels that it has a Knesset-given right to carry on apartheid and protect these neighborhood settlers.

The writer is director of the Institute of Modern Media at Al-Quds University.

Who needs elections?

DANIEL BLOCH

Free, democratic elections are the most vital ingredient of any democracy.

Elections must be held regularly. In that way they provide the electorate the freedom to choose between competing ideologies, political and social viewpoints and agendas. They allow the citizens to choose the most suitable personalities to lead and implement their political platforms.

Without elections and real choices democracy will become lifeless and deteriorate into a different kind of regime. In bypassing elections you start moving along the road to dictatorship. You know where it starts but you cannot foresee where it will end.

The decision of the Labor Party not to oppose Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo in the November municipal elections is wrong. For practical reasons as well as for long-term considerations, it might cause a serious blow to the democratic character of Israel's still young and fragile society.

I have never heard of a major political party in any democratic country deciding not to field a candidate because of public opinion polls.

The US Democratic Party campaigned Stevenson against Eisenhower in 1956, McGovern against Nixon in 1972 and Mondale against Reagan in 1984, even though the chances of winning were almost nil.

When the primary season of 1992 opened, most of the leading Democrats decided not to run because they were sure that George Bush would win a second term in a landslide. They were willing to wait until the 1996 elections.

One of the few who decided to jump into the cold water, against all odds and polls, was a relatively unknown governor from Arkansas. His name was Bill Clinton, and the rest is history.

Elections must be decided in the voting booth. There are too many examples here, and elsewhere that prove that surprise results occur quite often. Truman beat Dewey, Reagan beat Carter, Clinton beat Bush, John Major beat Neil Kinnock, Dennis Haskins beat Koch.

There's no shortage of examples here in Israel. Teddy Kollek was thought to be invincible, nobody believed that Begin would ever be elected or that a Labor candidate could ever lose the Histadrut's leadership.

NO viable major political party can allow itself to forgo any election campaign, even if all the public opinion polls are discouraging. A party that is unwilling to give its followers a chance to express their political views does not deserve to exist.

The logical consequence of Labor's decision in Tel Aviv is to act in the same way in future campaigns, local or national.

Let them appoint five professional, reputable pollsters to conduct several public opinion polls at the beginning of the year 2000, several months before the next general elections for prime minister and the Knesset. If the results show that Netanyahu leads Barak with a strong margin, why bother with an exhausting, costly campaign? Let Likud and Labor form a national unity coalition before the elections and campaign together against the smaller parties in the extreme Right and Left and against the religious parties. Sounds logical and appealing.

Surely neither party would buy this idea. National elections are something else, they will argue. That might be possible in a small village, but not in a major city. Ronni Milo is a popular political figure, but history has shown that no political figures are unbeatable. Nonetheless, Labor has already conceded the results before the campaign even started.

They might be in for surprises: An independent new candidate might fare well in the elections; Milo might still appear on a national platform, whether there is a deal or just an understanding that he will not form a new party or run for prime minister in the next elections.

Circumstances might change, especially if Ehud Barak continues his downward trend in the polls. The next elections will almost surely produce more than just two candidates for prime minister: Rafael Eitan, David Levy, Aryeh Deri and, last but not least, Ronni Milo all might decide to run.

While Milo is still a senior member of the Likud, the joint list in Tel Aviv will only boost his chances in the national scope. When the Labor Party probes the reasons for its failure in the 2000 elections, it will learn that the ill-advised decision taken in Tel Aviv started the fatal road to political oblivion.

The writer, a former editor of Davar, comments on current affairs.





Lucian Freud: Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau), oils, 1981-3 (\$2.5-\$3.5m. at Sotheby's New York)

Freud's masterpiece on the block

AT THE AUCTIONS

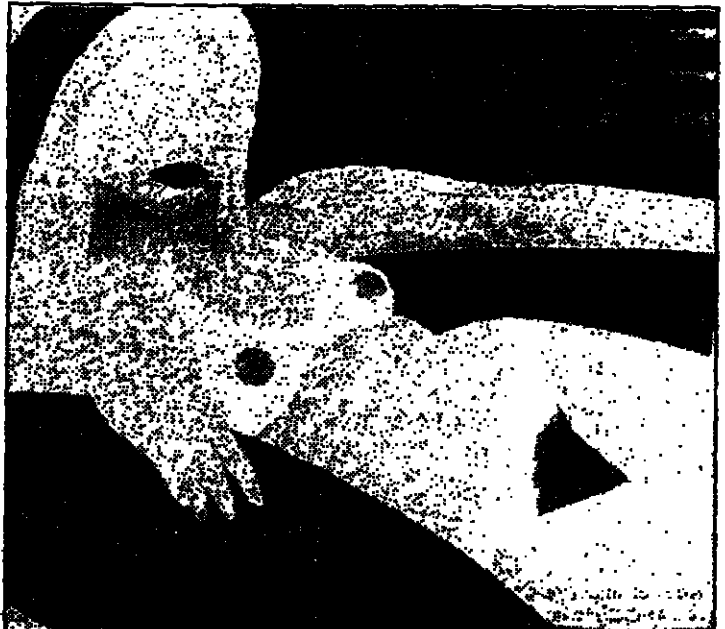
By NEIL SONNEN

The masterpiece of Lucian Freud, arguably Britain's greatest contemporary painter, is to be offered at Sotheby's New York on May 14. *Large Interior, W11 (after Watteau)*, an oil from 1981-3, from the collection of Freud's dealer James Kirkman, has an estimate of \$2.5-\$3.5m. It is now on a US tour after its recent viewing in London.

The oil depicts five figures, one of them the painter's daughter, designer Bella Freud, seen holding the mandolin. It transforms Watteau's treatment of love and jealousy into a piece of English urban introspection. The oil has been featured in all of Freud's retrospectives.

THERE ISN'T a single Freud in Sotheby's March 4 London sale of British and Irish paintings, drawings and sculpture. But among the 216 lots are some other gems, notably by Ivon Hitchens, Ruskin Spear, Russell Flint and L.S. Lowry, the latter with an untitled Lancashire farm scene, 1951 (£15,000-\$20,000). The Hitchens semi-abstract *Holbrook* may go over £15,000. A Duncan Grant of children playing on the beach, from the early '30s, has a similar estimate. A small Sidney Nolan on paper of bushranger Ned Kelly has a top estimate of £3,000 (this Australian expatriate painter worked much of his life in Britain). In contrast, the plain air realist landscapes so beloved of Britons by Edward Seago, range from £10,000 to £25,000. Augustus John, Elizabeth Frank, Jacob Epstein, John Piper, Frank Dobson and Laura Knight are among the well-known artists represented.

LITHOGRAPHIC posters by Toulouse-Lautrec from the estate of actor Burgess Meredith are only one of a number of very desirable groups in a Sotheby's New York sale of nearly 800 lots of 19th- and 20th-century prints, to be sold in four sessions on March 6 and 7.



Tom Wesselman: Nude, aquatint, 1980 (Sotheby's New York, \$2,000-\$2,500)

The selection offered is breathtaking. Major etchings and lithographs by Renoir, Picasso, Matisse, Miro, Delaunay, Motherwell, Wesselman, Katz, Hockney, Lichtenstein, Dine and Noland are all first class. Some, by Picasso and Matisse, are particularly sensual and even erotic. Some line etchings of nudes by Matisse start at only \$800, but good Matisse aquatints range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. A number of Chagalls are also on offer, the better ones starting at \$3,000.

COSTUMES, textiles and historic fabric swatch books are to be sold by Sotheby's London on March 4 and 5. Some come from the Calico Printers Association Archive; the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry Samplers; and the Charleville Gallery Textile Collection. Many of the swatch books date from the mid-19th and early 20th century and include such items as Japanese brocade silks; Claude Freres printed silks and cottons from 1901 and 1913; and other lots range from Bokaran susani panels to Indian chintz. A German band sampler, circa 1750, has an estimate of £500-£900. Another German sampler embroi-

dered in polychrome silks, goes back to 1687: it has a top estimate of £800. An English stumpwork picture of bucolic figures, from around 1660, has a top estimate of £2,000.

SOTHEBY'S IS following up its wonderful London sale of clocks and watches, held last week, with a sale of watches and wristwatches in New York on March 9. A rather innocuous-looking platinum wristwatch made by Patek Philippe of Geneva in 1927 and retailed in the US by the Grogan company, has an estimate of \$100,000-\$150,000.

Patek Philippe dominates this sale and a beautiful gold hunter from this maker, dated 1875, starts at \$15,000-\$20,000. A gold-cased hunter by Lang and Sohne, Dresden, circa 1890, is valued at around \$3,000. A number of fine British two-day marine chronometers have the same estimate.

Among the table clocks, by Cartier and others, is a rare Dutch striking regulator attributed to Hubert Sarton of Liege, circa 1800. It is finished in gilded brass and has an enamel dial (\$8,000-\$12,000).



Pablo Picasso: Girl with Flowers, lithograph, 1957, signed in red crayon (Sotheby's New York, \$30,000-\$40,000)



Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec: Marcelle Lender, color lithograph, 1895 (Sotheby's New York, \$15,000-\$20,000)

CHRISTIE'S New York is offering a historic Argentine flag brooch that belonged to Eva Peron in its spring sale of "Magnificent Jewels" on April 6-7. It was Peron's favorite brooch. Designed by Van Cleef & Arpels, the flag unfurls from a platinum flagstaff set with seven baguette-cut diamonds, while the blue bands are created from invisibly set tiny square-cut sapphires on either side of a band of pavé set with circular-cut diamonds. The central sun motif is made of yellow diamonds.

The invisible setting technique was brought to perfection by Van Cleef & Arpels in the 1930s. The technique sets each square-cut stone directly against its neighbor without any visible means of support, creating an unbroken mosaic of color and light. The stones are set by means of grooves in their sides which slide into a latticework of wire visible only from the back. Hundreds of

matched stones were required. Van Cleef & Arpels made it their specialty, using matched diamonds, rubies and sapphires with four special facets devised to reflect even more light. The Peron brooch has an estimate of \$80,000-\$120,000.

ONE OF the finest collections of medical and scientific books in private hands, The Haskell F. Norman Library of Science and Medicine, will be sold by Christie's New York on March 18. The 2,500 titles range from the Renaissance to the 20th century. Psychiatrist Norman began his collection with a first edition of Freud's *Die Traumdeutung* ("The Interpretation of Dreams"). Among the earlier volumes is an illuminated first edition of *De humani corporis fabrica libri septem* by the great anatomist Andreas Vesalius, Basel, 1543, which has an estimate of \$400,000-\$600,000.

Victorians stripped of all their secrets

Book Review



By Jocelyn McClurg

Thanks to five books by historian Peter Gay, the Victorians don't have many secrets left.

The retired Yale professor has just published the fifth and final volume of his series *The Bourgeois Experience: Victoria to Freud*, a massive reclamation project that has shed new light on the old view of the Victorian middle-class as repressed, close-minded philistines.

Gay's cultural history of 19th-century middle-class mores began with two startling volumes - *Education of the Senses* (1984) and *The Tender Passion* (1986) - that opened the bedroom door on Victorian sexuality, proving that a good number of our ancestors, especially women, actually enjoyed sex.

In Vol. 3, *The Cultivation of Hated* (1993), Gay assessed how well (or poorly) the Victorians harnessed aggression, and in Vol. 4, *The Naked Heart* (1995), he uncovered the middle-class interest in self-examination through diaries and intimate letters.

Now, in Vol. 5, *Pleasure Wars* (W.W. Norton, \$29.95), Gay again debunks stereotypes, this time revealing many of the bourgeoisie as surprisingly supportive of the avant-garde in the arts.

Gay, 74, who turned his atten-

which won the National Book Award) and wanted to move from the 18th century to the 19th. Initially he planned to write about the artists and writers who led Western culture into modernism. But as he undertook his research, he discovered an unexpected subject - the neglected and misunderstood middle class.

The project crystallized the day his wife, author Ruth Gay, then a Yale archivist, came home with a photocopy of the first page of Mabel Loomis Todd's diary. Todd, whose lover was Austin Dickinson, Emily Dickinson's brother, had written of the moment her husband David Todd impregnated her.

"It was electrifying, oh God," Peter Gay says of reading Todd's words, which turned his ideas about Victorian sexuality on their head.

He went on to discover erotic letters wives sent their soldier-husbands during the Civil War, further proving that all Victorians were not prudish.

Of course there was sexual dysfunction, among both men and women, Gay says, and Victorian society clearly was a patriarchy.

But, he muses, "I sometimes have the feeling that they had a better time sexually than we do. I think the excitement [today] has been minimized by the very availability and casual treatment of [sex]."

GAY WRITES in the epilogue of *Pleasure Wars* that he finished his five-volume series with a mixture of "relief and regret."

But the prolific professor has already completed another book, a memoir of his childhood called *My German Question: Growing Up in Hitler's Berlin*, which Yale University Press will publish.

"I sometimes have the feeling that the Victorians had a better time sexually than we do," says Gay, who thinks the excitement today has been minimized by the casual approach to sex.

tion to the 19th century back in 1971, says he hopes he has "enlarged the canvas" in our thinking about the Victorians.

"Simple, derivative generalizations about [the bourgeoisie's] greed and hypocrisy and cant are part of a big propaganda campaign, which is partly true and partly not," he says during an interview in the two-tiered library of his modern home in Hamden, Conn.

GAY'S WORK about the Victorians has been both praised for its revelations and sometimes challenged for its reliance on the theories of Sigmund Freud.

Freud is a passion of Gay's - among his many books is a well-received 1988 biography of the father of psychoanalysis, *Freud: A Life for Our Times*. During the 1970s, Gay undertook intensive training at the Western New England Institute for Psychoanalysis, and his psychoanalytic background gave him a framework for the "Bourgeois Experience" series.

His Freudian approach to history is "some kind of crazy mixture that reviewers have a lot of trouble with," he says.

Propped next to him on the couch is a Sigmund Freud pillow - a gift from his publisher.

"What I found admirable and usable in Freud was his view of the human animal, the emphasis on the drives," Gay says.

In *Pleasure Wars*, the Freudian influence is fairly subtle. The book is a lively, straightforward account that uses case histories of middle-class patrons who supported the arts in the United States and Europe - and of those who were more ambiguous or hostile toward the new.

At the beginning of the 1970s, Gay had completed two volumes on the Enlightenment (the first of

probably in the spring of 1999).

Gay, an only child, was born in Berlin in 1923, to Jewish parents who had renounced their religion. That, of course, made no difference to the Nazis.

As Nazi repression of the Jews became increasingly violent, Gay's family made plans to flee Germany, and in 1933 they were allowed to leave, thanks to the efforts of Gay's uncle, who lived in the United States with his American wife. Gay and his parents spent two years in Cuba and entered the United States in 1941.

Two of Gay's aunts, his father's sisters, died in concentration camps.

Asked if he considers himself to be Jewish, Gay says: "That's a very hard question. I would say yes if only because 'no' would seem to be like some sort of denial. But I am really as non-Jewish as you can get."

Once in the US, Gay pursued an education, attending the University of Denver and getting his doctorate from Columbia, where he taught for two decades. He joined Yale in 1969 and retired in 1993 as Sterling Professor of History Emeritus.

The title of his memoir, *My German Question*, refers to Gay's difficulties with Germans - "for example, my unwillingness to talk about it or to read German for years and how my attitude very gradually changed."

Gay's next literary project is a short life of Mozart, for a Viking Penguin biographical series. And last year he was named founding director of a new \$15 million humanities center at the New York Public Library. He spends about three days a week in the city.

Back at home in Hamden the rest of the time, "I'm supposed to do my own work, which I like to do, keep on writing."

(The Hartford Courant)

The search for new power sources? It's a breeze

Earthly Concerns



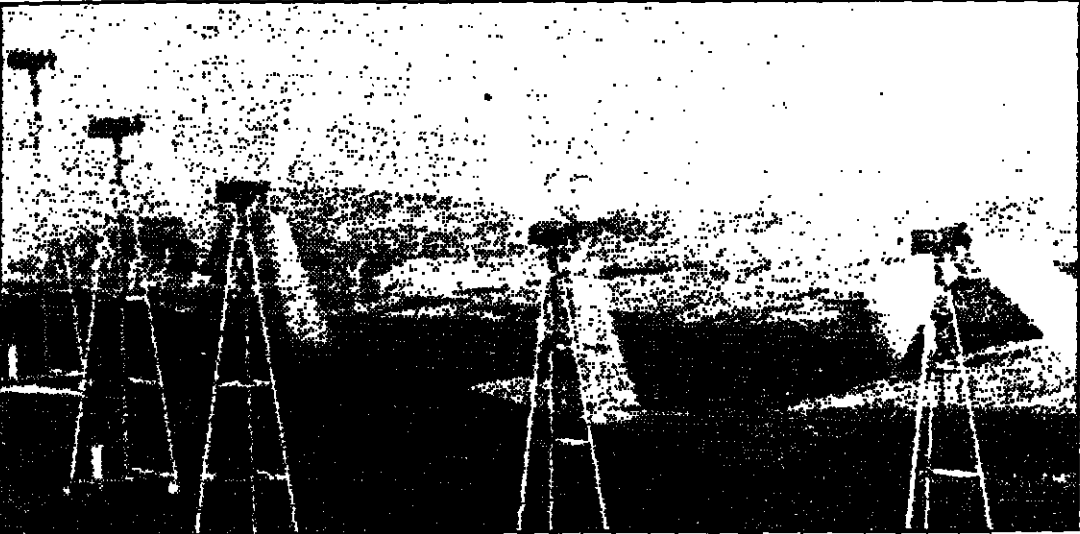
By D'vora Ben Shaul

Faced with aggressive price rises by the OPEC oil cartel in the 1970s, the world began to search in earnest for alternative energy sources. But all this effort seemed to dissipate a decade or more later, when oil prices went down and governments rescinded the tax breaks that helped fund such projects.

It seemed as if all the efforts to replace coal and oil as energy sources had stopped. But have they?

The most recent survey by a Washington-based think-tank known as Worldwatch indicates this is not the case.

In its 1998 review entitled *The State of the World*, this very responsible organization says



Wind-generated electricity is the world's fastest-growing energy source.

that, appearances aside, the development of renewable energy technologies is continuing at breakneck speed.

For instance, wind-generated electricity is the world's fastest-growing energy source, Worldwatch reports. It is expanding by 25 percent per year, while the markets for coal and oil are expanding by only 1% per year.

The generating capacity of

wind turbines reached an estimated 7,600 megawatts in 1997. In Denmark, wind turbines already provide 7% of the country's electricity.

In the US, an inventory has shown that just three wind-rich states - North Dakota, South Dakota and Texas - could, in theory, fill America's total electricity demand. In China, a similar study found that that country could eas-

ily double its electricity production by harnessing wind energy.

The earliest developments in harnessing wind energy came from the US and Denmark, but countries like Germany and India are catching up.

Tomen, a Japanese firm, intends to invest \$1.2 billion to install large wind turbines in Europe over the next five years. As the basic costs continue to decline, it

seems almost certain that wind power will be a significant energy source in the future.

Another highly promising source of renewable energy is the photovoltaic cell, which provides electricity to some 400,000 homes worldwide, mostly in Third World villages, giving power to remote areas that are difficult to reach via traditional infrastructure.

But its use is likely to expand soon, due to the recent development of photovoltaic roof tiles. In Japan the plan is to install roof tiles that can generate 4,600 megawatts of power by the year 2010.

This system is not aimed at the Third World; in fact, it will work best where the houses are already connected to the national or regional grid, because these cells can produce electricity that will be fed directly to the grid.

Households equipped with these roof tiles can thus also use electricity from the grid and be billed for what they use, minus what they've put in. In many cases, the family will not only get no bill for its electric usage; they will get a check for the difference, depending on the amount their home transfers to the grid.

Ba'kehila Readers

Do you have an old family Pessah recipe you would like to share with us?

Send us your recipes with a little background information (if you have any) and we will be glad to publish it (space permitting) in our next edition of Ba'kehila which will be coming out on Pessah (March 27).

Please write to
Ba'kehila Recipes
The Jerusalem Post P.O.B. 81 Jerusalem 91000.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Weapons testing lab reopens for more peaceful business

By BILL JACZOR

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Florida (AP) — The world's biggest deep freeze, which also can mimic desert sun, jungle humidity and other weather conditions, is back in business after a \$75 million renovation.

And much of McKinley Climatic Laboratory's business is moving away from war and toward peace, in contrast to what it was doing before the US Air Force closed the facility for a three-year makeover.

Once devoted almost entirely to testing weapons and other military equipment, the lab is paying a peacetime dividend by aggressively pursuing commercial business for the first time in its 51-year history.

Civilian automobiles, tires and aircraft are among the items tested since the lab reopened last June.

"We did some commercial work for many years, but it was extremely small, mainly because the government was not very geared to commercial purposes," said laboratory director Kirk Velasco. "If your item was not at all related to some defense need, you had to go through a ton of paperwork," he said. "People just didn't want to bother."

But the government's attitude has changed, and federal laboratories now welcome commercial users.

The Air Force Development Test Center at this Florida Panhandle base distributes a colorful brochure offering the services of a dozen laboratories and other facilities.

The climatic lab offers commercial customers its full range of testing capability.

It has a temperature range of 74 degrees Centigrade to minus 54 degrees Centigrade and can whip up hail, sand and dust storms or monsoon-like rains of 60 centimeters per hour. "We can create any type of climatic conditions that you would want to operate in," Velasco said.

"We can't duplicate a tornado or a hurricane, but we can give you some high winds. If you want to try 200 kph winds, we can do that for you."

Customers can choose from six chambers of various sizes. The biggest can hold a C-5A Galaxy cargo plane, the air force's largest aircraft.

Although some private facilities



Florida's McKinley Climatic Laboratory, which once tested war materials, is now aggressively pursuing commercial business for the first time in its 51-year history.

can handle items as big as a car or truck, the main chamber's only competition is nature itself.

Main chamber fees are about \$8,000-\$10,000 a day, depending on the type of testing. It cost Goodyear and subsidiary Kelly Springfield about \$250,000 for a month's worth of tire tests on snow and ice late last year. "Our snow consistency is extremely good compared to what you get out there in the real world," Velasco said.

Canada's Bombardier Inc. used the main chamber in January for Federal Aviation Administration certification of its Global Express, a business jet that can seat up to about 30 passengers, in various weather conditions. General Motors tested autos in a smaller chamber also used by Boeing to obtain FAA engine-

transport and the Navy's P-3 Orion antisubmarine plane have been in for tests since the lab reopened. The lab also is used for missiles, tanks and other weapons.

Most testing is done for more mundane items such as tents and shelters.

A huge shelter for B-2 stealth bombers will be tested later this year.

Military and civilian customers alike are getting a more efficient, capable and environment-friendly facility as a result of the renovation.

Better insulation has cut electric bills by about a third, Velasco said. They used to run up to \$120,000 a month.

The amount of cold air pumped into the chamber has been doubled, meaning engines can run at

higher power or for longer periods. Cooling equipment that required ozone-depleting Freon has been replaced with a system using a more benign refrigerant, the same type used in home air conditioners.

Tests often are scheduled far in advance.

The big chamber is booked eight straight months in 2001-2002 for military equipment, including the Air Force's F-22 Raptor fighter and the Army's Comanche helicopter.

But there are plenty of opportunities for smaller chambers, and the Air Force wants to fill them with civilian customers.

"If those gaps start getting bigger," Velasco said, "then we'll start to push the commercial side even more."

Now dump trucks will stay the right way up



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

A system developed at the Technion that prevents dump trucks from turning over will soon be installed in 52 vehicles owned by Pioneer Concrete Ltd. According to the Technion, about 10 percent of Israeli trucks that tow behind a container raised by a hydraulic arm turn over each year when the contents are emptied.

Because the truck usually stands on a surface that is not completely flat, the dumpster can easily turn over on its side when it raises its center of gravity by elevating.

The damage from this accident can reach \$50,000 — some \$15,000 of it direct damage to the truck and the rest harm to a third party and the driver's loss of workdays. Considering that worldwide there are 500,000 such trucks — 3,500 of them here — the financial loss due to these accidents is astronomical.

Litan, a company founded two years ago by Technion mechanical engineering graduate Nissim Levi and electrical engineering graduate Gideon Harel, has produced the system, called Truck-Right.

It consists of a box with sensors installed inside the truck's dumping container and a digital computer attached to the inside of the driver's compartment. As soon as it's turned on, the system gives the driver a prediction on the safety of dumping where the truck is standing.

If the dumping begins on unstable ground that endangers the truck, the process is automatically halted and the dumpster returned to its place. Litan, which is working on developing other heavy-vehicle safety devices, says the device can cut the number of turnovers each year from 10% to 15%.

It can be installed not only on new trucks but also retrofitted on older ones. The system costs \$2,300, making the savings almost immediate.

ROLL-UP TV SCREENS
A British company, Cambridge

Display Technology Ltd. (CDT), has developed light-emitting polymers (LEPs) that can greatly improve users' ability to view the screens on their laptop computers and cellular phones and allow TV screens to be so thin that they could be rolled up and stored when not in use.

LEPs project high-resolution pictures onto flat, flexible, plastic screens and are described as "plastic that glows." The firm recently announced it will collaborate with Japanese electronics maker Seiko-Epson Corp to produce televisions and computer screens based on CDT's technology.

CDT managing director Danny Chapchal said the technology will have myriad uses as computers become ubiquitous. "It's a multibillion dollar market. You are talking about anything as simple as mobile phone displays all the way up to TVs and all the things along that route — the display on your stereo, microwave, on the dashboard of your car, and computer screens."

He unveiled a working model of a 50 by 50 millimeter screen only two millimeters thick that can show full television pictures. CDT plans to license manufacturers to make products it has designed and charge royalties on sales.

ORT SCORES

WITH EXHIBIT

Students at the ORT Technical School in Givatayim have produced a computerized system for the statistical analysis of basketball game results. The product is one of the inventions on display at the school in the fields of computerized graphics, architecture, electronics, sculpture and computers.

The basketball results system, which received second prize in the competition, was developed by the students in cooperation with Motorola Communications-Israel. First prize was granted to a computerized system for managing and maintaining a fleet of vehicles.

Simpler things, on display include customized packaging for pilot and for ties. Held to mark the state's jubilee and the 75th anniversary of Givatayim's founding, the exhibition includes posters, drawings, photographs and commercial products designed by students.

One of the most admired exhibits was a model of a 21st-century-style discotheque painted bright-red and wine-colored, with bars, carpets and dance floors.

First 'Pilgrims' may have arrived 40,000 years ago

By MAGGIE FOX

PHILADELPHIA — The first Americans arrived way before the Pilgrim fathers: linguistic and physical evidence is mounting to show that the first Americans migrated from Asia not 10 or 20 millennia ago but as many as 40,000 years ago.

Researchers told the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that the first people to make the trek across what is now the Bering Strait from Asia into Alaska may have arrived even before the last Ice Age covered North America with glaciers.

The discovery of a site apparently 12,500 years old in Monte Verde, Chile, has thrown the archeological world into an uproar.

The site itself is 1,300 years older than the oldest known prehistoric site — and it is 14,000 kilometers away from the one-time land bridge between Asia and Alaska. Unless the settlers went straight down to Chile, they must have been on the continent for tens of thousands of years.

Johanna Nichols, a language expert at the University of California at Berkeley, said computer models could show how long it would take people to physically move from Alaska to Monte Verde.

"That's about 12,000 kilometers once one crossed the ice sheet," she said. "It would have taken about 2,000 years to travel on a beeline at a good clip." That would put the first settlers at 14,500 years ago at the very latest.

Geological experts point out that heavy glaciers covered much of the continent at that time, so in fact the trek must have taken place much earlier. Some of the most compelling evidence is linguistic, said Nichols.

Native North American languages are so different that they must have evolved over tens of thousands of years. "The linguistic population of the New World is about 40,000 years old," Nichols said. "There are 130 to 150 different language families in Native American languages today."

An example of a language fam-

ily is Indo-European, which includes languages as far apart as English, Russian and Sanskrit.

It takes such a family about 6,000 years to evolve. "So there are something like 140 of these 6,000-year-old different units existing among Native Americans," Nichols said. "The large number of distinct language families historically attested in the Americas is far more than could have descended from one ancestor in 14,500 years."

Even if people had migrated into the Americas constantly over time, without any interruptions by glaciers, it would have taken 30,000 years for that many groups to develop, she estimated. She added that there was probably a second influx.

There is a narrow strip of different language families along the west coast of the Americas that matches patterns found only in other Pacific Rim countries.

"They are 12,000 years old, but certainly not 40,000," the language expert said.

Rob Bonnicksen of Oregon State University said his team might eventually be able to answer the question of how old the first Americans are with physical measurements. They have found naturally shed human and animal hair at ancient sites and have been able to tease DNA out of it. They have also used new carbon-dating methods on the animal hair, and it seems to work.

"We can extract and amplify DNA from an individual hair," he said. "We can DNA analyze and carbon-date the same hair." His team has already tried the method on a 9,500-year-old hair from a mountain sheep; they want to perfect the methods before they try it on a precious human sample.

Dennis Stanford of the Smithsonian Institution said he thought more and more evidence would come out about very early Americans. Scientists who had sites they thought were older than 10,000 years had been afraid to come forward for fear of being criticized, he said.

"Now a number of sites are coming to light," he said. "I would predict that in the next year there would be even more." (Reuters)

TELL ME WHY

How, and why, do you cross a llama with a camel?

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

I have just read about the birth in a British zoo of a baby to a camel father and a llama mother. The animal is called a calama.

How is this possible, as they seem to be very different animals? And would the calama baby be infertile, like the offspring of a horse and donkey? Avraham Beersheba

Prof. Reuven Yagil, a Ben-Gurion University expert on camels, replies:

As it happens, our department was the one that advised the British woman, Lulu Skidmore, on how to produce the calama. She works in a center that raises horses for racing.

Although we didn't see any scientific purpose in it, she said she wanted to increase the offspring's milk production.

They invited me to England to help them.

We were not surprised that the baby was conceived [by in-vitro fertilization] and born.

Llamas and camels, although of different sizes, as well as alpacas and camels, are very close species.

But nobody knows whether the calama will be fertile, like a yaze (a cross between a goat and an ibex), or infertile, like a mule. It will take three years for the animal to mature before they can be certain.

I've noticed from anatomy books that the brains of lower mammals have almost no convolutions (folds), while those of humans have many.

Are these folds involved in the amount of intelligence in the bearers of these brains? How do these folds affect intelligence? Zvi Jerusalem

Prof. Edward L. White, chairman of the department of morphology at BGU Medical School, answers:

Brain folds are nature's way of increasing the volume of the cerebral cortex.

You can see differences in the amount of folding between a lower mammal, like a mouse — which has hardly any folding — and an ape or a human.

But you can't compare the amount of folds in individuals of the same species to see who (or which) is the more intelligent. The reason is that people have much more brain than they actually use. Cephalic idiots who have minimal brain power have nearly as many folds as normal people. Intelligence in a species is also related not only to the amount of folding, but also to the size of the brain compared to that of the body.

I was terrible at navigation drills in the army. Is there something in the brain that makes some people good at finding their way and whose absence makes others hopeless at this? My wife says she's even worse at finding her way in the car. Are there any differences in navigating ability between women and men? Efraim Beersheba

Prof. White answers this one too:

I myself am very bad at navigating. I try to memorize a route from a map and it works out. This skill involves higher cortical function, but it is very complex behavior and not due to one factor or another.

Someday, somebody will figure it out. PET (positron-emission tomography) scans are able to determine when certain parts of the brain are functioning for a certain purpose, but it cannot be taken along while somebody is navigating, and the behavior is too complicated to test at this time.

I don't know of any proven differences in navigating ability between women and men, but women have a reputation for being "confused" while driving because they tend to be less embarrassed than men about asking for directions.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer.

Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, fax it to (02) 5389527, or send it by e-mail to jussie@post.co.il.

Please include your first name and place of residence.



Recent 'intermarriage': The camel (top) is a close relative of the llama. (Above: Israel Today, Below: Debbie Hilt)



1550 1550

'Telemedicine' – bringing medical minds together

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Israeli doctors are expert in dealing with almost any medical problem. But there are some cases so rare and complicated that only physicians in a handful of American or other major medical centers abroad have enough treatment experience. When patients are advised to go abroad for consultation, arrangements take time and cost large sums of money, often without much support from the health fund.

Telemedicine – in which consulting doctors in different cities, countries or continents are brought together by the amazing technology of videoconferencing – is now making such overseas travel unnecessary in many cases.

Esra Lemarpeh, the voluntary medical-assistance organization based in Bnei Brak, recently inaugurated a \$150,000 videoconferencing facility in its new \$5 million headquarters in Beit Tzuporen in Rehov HaHida. Founded 20 years ago by Rabbi Elimelech Fier, the voluntary organization operated out of a small room in the home of one of its supporters and then rented a 450-square-meter building nearby.

With 300 active volunteers and a \$2 million annual budget, Esra Lemarpeh now assists between 200,000 and 300,000 Israelis of all faiths and origins each year, through medical equipment loans, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, ambulances, rehabilitation, medical advice and personal home visits. The first unit to function in the 2,500-square-meter building was the videoconferencing room.

Although the word "video" is regarded in the haredi community as so sinful that censors at the



Rabbi Elimelech Fier, founder of Esra Lemarpeh, which helps between 200,000 and 300,000 Israelis each year.

Agudar Yisrael paper Hamodia cut out, at the last minute, each mention of it from an article about Esra Lemarpeh's telemedicine service, the system is regarded as a boon to patients. Produced by Binat, it was purchased with help from the

Toronto Children's Hospital, whose experts have often been used as consultants to Esra Lemarpeh. The dedication ceremony was attended recently by Canadian Ambassador David Berger along with many hospital physicians.

The latest of 10 cases to be expedited using the telemedicine facility is a year-old boy born to a non-Jewish Russian immigrant woman who abandoned him soon after birth because of his severe medical problems. Suffering from a complex form of transposition of the great arteries, the baby underwent surgery at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus, but his condition only deteriorated. A court appointed a guardian, and the judge in the case was required to give his consent before any step was taken.

Fier was called in on the case. He convened six senior pediatric and cardiology experts from the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel and from Assaf Harofe Hospital in Tzrifin. Sitting in Beit Tzuporen in Bnei Brak, they were hooked up by videoconferencing with Prof. Edwin Becker, a renowned pediatric cardiologist in a Chicago medical center.

The US physician, who arrived at his hospital an hour earlier than usual that morning to take part, queried the six Israelis on the treatment the baby had received so far. He viewed magnetic resonance instrument (MRI) scans as well as the results of a bronchoscopy and echocardiography tests taken of the child. Ordinarily, this evidence would take 48 hours to send by air to Chicago, but thanks to six ISDN (integrated services digital network) lines installed by Esra Lemarpeh, the data could be transmitted clearly in real time.

The six cables provide a broad-based channel of medical information and make possible the live interaction. The facility will soon purchase an electron microscope that can be hooked up and provide greatly magnified data or transmission abroad via the ISDN lines.



Consulting doctors in different cities, countries – and even continents – can be linked by videoconferencing to save lives.

Avishai Fier, the organization chairman's chief assistant, reported that the one-hour session cost Esra Lemarpeh NIS 800 but saved thousands of dollars. Becker volunteered his services. "When families have the means, we are happy if they cover the costs, but if they don't, the organization pays the videoconferencing expenses," said Fier.

As a result of the consultations, it was decided to launch a series of operations on the baby, in Israel, in the hope of saving his life.

Another case that used the videoconferencing facilities was a

girl who underwent two operations after accidentally drinking cleaning fluids that seriously burned her esophagus. After examining the image of a section of her food tube, Canadian doctors on the other end advised using a new microsurgical technique for replacing her damaged esophagus with a piece of her intestine.

Another consultation involved a baby born with a rare defect causing the narrowing of tubes in his lung. Canadian physicians were able to watch the child react and behave, and after looking at the bronchoscopy results, urged a post-

ponement of surgery for several months in the hope that the problem would fix itself in the interim. The parents, who were very relieved, smiled at Rabbi Fier and thanked him for the telemedicine service, which saved them much effort and money.

According to Esra Lemarpeh, the system – the first of its kind in Israel – will allow consultations with physicians not only in Canada, but all over the world. It will be put at the disposal of senior doctors at various Israeli hospitals who want to confer with colleagues abroad about difficult cases.

Forced outpatient psychiatric care – does it work?

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

The 1991 law that permits forced psychiatric treatment on an ambulatory basis has had quite successful results, proving effective in 44.4 percent of the cases. But it failed to prevent confinement in a psychiatric institution in a third of cases.

This is the conclusion of a team from Kupat Holim Clalit's Talbieh Mental Health Center and Jerusalem district psychiatrist Dr. Yair Barei.

Writing in *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association, the researchers explain that the law allowed the district psychiatrist, on the basis of a psychiatric examination, to send patients against their will for treatment in an outpatient clinic for up to six months.

It was hoped that the law would reduce the number of cases in which the mentally ill had to be confined as inpatients against their will. But since the law went into effect, numerous professionals in the psychiatric field have complained that it was not working well and led to "revolving-door syndrome," in which patients were in and out of hospitals.

The team decided to study the cases of 326 patients who were required to go for ambulatory treatment between 1991 and 1994. All were seriously ill psychiatric patients, mostly schizophrenics who didn't recognize the fact that they were ill and needed continuing care after hospitalization.

They found that over a fifth of the patients willingly went for outpatient treatment after the forced treatment ended; in addition, the treatment was extended for 16.3% and an additional 7.2% went for hospitalization at their own initiative. This part was regarded as a success.

However, a third of the patients, 106, had to be hospitalized as inpatients during the period when they were supposed to be outpatients; this was viewed as a failure.

The authors conclude that the best candidates for the forced outpatient arrangement are patients taking medication that controls their illness and whose medical effects can be monitored by blood tests in the clinic. In addition, they must prefer to live in the community rather than remain in the hospital.

The failures included many patients who "got themselves together" temporarily, begged the psychiatrists' committee to release them from inpatient wards and then from inpatient treatment promised to stick to outpatient treatment without intending to do so. The team recommends the

building of an infrastructure to monitor the law's implementation; they also urge the allocation of funds to hire professional workers who can identify those patients violating the arrangement and refusing to get the treatment they need. The existing situation does not allow adequate supervision and follow-up, they said.

CAFFEINE VS. FERTILITY

Drinking a lot of coffee may reduce the chances for conception somewhat, thus women with fertility problems who want to get pregnant could be better off if they reduced their intake, according to a study.

Dr. Nahman Ekstein, deputy head of the gynecology branch at Ichilov Hospital, who reviews an article from the *American Journal of Epidemiology* for the latest edition of the Hebrew-language *Ov/Gyn Update*, notes that the European multi-center study on fertility and coffee drinking should not be ignored.

In the past, studies on this purported connection have not produced clear results one way or another. But the latest piece of research – by Bolund, Olsen and Rebagliato – was "quite comprehensive and careful," even though it was retrospective, examining the coffee-drinking habits of women in the past, rather than prospective (in which a test group and control group were instructed how to behave).

It is difficult to separate coffee-drinking behavior from connected factors, such as tension, social status, alcohol consumption and smoking. But "it appears that it took longer to get pregnant when caffeine consumption was higher than 500 milligrams a day," Ekstein noted, so it may be worthwhile recommending that infertile women who want to conceive reduce their coffee intake.

HEALTH APPOINTMENTS

Former Norwegian prime minister Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland has been named the next director-general of the World Health Organization. In July, she will replace Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, who has been criticized for the marked deterioration of the UN organization over the past decade.

The WHO's executive board recently elected the 58-year-old MD, public health expert, mother of four and grandmother of seven. She studied medicine at the University of Oslo and public health at Harvard University. She was Norway's minister of environment for five years and prime minister three times, the latest from 1990 to 1996.

Meanwhile, Dr. David Satcher, an African-American born into poverty in the segregated South, has been sworn in as US surgeon general. He promised to "make the greatest difference for those with the greatest need. I know that the American dream does not end when it comes true," Satcher said at a White House ceremony.

Burned out by health system, US doctors bow out

By DAVID HILZENRATH

Doctors, once among the most dependable workers in America, have been leaving their jobs in sharply rising numbers to collect disability benefits, according to insurance executives.

Surveys have shown that many doctors are dissatisfied with the changes health maintenance organizations and other managed-care companies have wrought in the health care system. Insurers believe that declining morale is a key factor in the growth of disability claims.

"The surgeon who used to continue to practice even though he had arthritis in his hands or had some other type of ailment, he's not doing that anymore. He's saying, 'I'm fed up. I'm just going to take disability,'" said Larry Stein, administrator of the Texas Medical Association Insurance Trust, a disability plan for Texas doctors.

For underwriters at Northwestern Mutual Life, for example, surgeons now rank near the bottom of the professional hierarchy, below industrial shipping clerks, steel mill superintendents and traveling salesmen.

Once, they ranked among lawyers, accountants, architects and engineers in the occupational class most favored for disability coverage. Insurance companies clamored for their business, offering them the lowest premiums and the richest benefits on policies that would replace lost income if they became incapacitated.

After their latest downgrade by Northwestern Mutual in September, doctors who transplant hearts, remove brain tumors and perform other kinds of surgery stand four tiers beneath their former peers on a scale of seven occupational classes eligible for disability coverage.

The ranking places surgeons



More and more physicians, fed up with the changing rules of their profession, are leaving their jobs to collect disability benefits.

(Sara Uziel)

among grocery cashiers, bank tellers, secretaries, telephone switchboard operators, truck dispatchers and warehouse foremen – just one step up from butchers, waitresses, locksmiths, street

cleaning supervisors, the cable TV worker and the ticket-takers at baseball parks.

For years physicians have vented anger and frustration about the changing rules of their profession.

Many complain that they are working harder for less money under greater stress.

Their world has been turned upside down by HMOs and other managed-care companies that question their medical judgment, squeeze their pay and pressure them to economize on patient care, all in an effort to contain costs and control quality. Adding to the indignity, many critics dismiss their complaints as the whining of a spoiled elite.

Disability insurers offer a less emotional perspective. The medical profession "has become a significant drain on earnings," Northwestern Mutual, a major disability insurer, said in a handbook for insurance agents last year as it revised its standards. "Corrective action is necessary to avoid continued subsidy of this market by the non-medical occupations."

At UNUM Life Insurance Co. of America, another major issuer of disability policies, doctors' claims soared an unprecedented 60 percent in 1994. In some instances, physicians can earn more on disability than they can working.

Insurance executives blame themselves for being irresponsibly solicitous in their past pursuit of physicians. But within the underwriting business, there is consensus – fueling the surge in doctors' claims is managed care.

"Their occupation became different from what they signed up for, more stressful," said Richard Mucci, senior vice president of MassMutual, a major disability insurer. "They become more like employees as opposed to entrepreneurs."

The insurers' assessment matches other barometers of physician morale. A Louis Harris and Associates survey sponsored by the Commonwealth Fund found that only one physician in four was very satisfied with the practice of medicine overall, and more than one third were somewhat or

very dissatisfied. Specialists were the most unhappy: one in 10 was "very dissatisfied."

Respondents complained that they could not spend enough time with patients and that they lacked the authority to make the right decisions about patient care.

Bethesda, Maryland psychiatrist Harold Eist put it in sharper terms. "With the advent of managed care, the unbelievable hassles, the disrespect, the attack on professional dignity, the attack on the doctor-patient relationship, the enormous amount of unnecessary paperwork," Eist said many doctors "are so depressed and stressed that instead of going back to work, they're just saying, 'I'm not going to bang my head against the wall.'"

Yet Gregory Linde, second vice president of the Principal Financial Group, another insurer, sees cause for optimism. The problem is largely generational, he said. Today's medical students are entering the profession with more realistic expectations and are therefore less likely to have their hopes dashed, Linde said.

Insurers can do little to stem their losses on older physicians, because doctors tend to purchase policies early in their careers, permanently locking in rates and terms of coverage. However, when it comes to new policies, insurers have been raising premiums and reducing benefits, telegraphing their outlook for the profession.

For Northwestern Mutual customers, the reclassification of doctors last year had the effect of sharply increasing premiums. A 29-year-old male surgeon buying basic coverage today would have to pay \$5,225 a year for a policy worth \$120,000 a year in the event he were incapacitated – a 24 percent increase from last summer's price.

(The Washington Post)

Barking up a different tree to fight cancer

By ROBERT COOKE

Kelly the Pekinese is nervous, trembling a little as the doctors huddle around her preparing the injections. The procedure is quick, apparently painless and the 13-year-old dog is gently handed back to her owners.

In more ways than one, Kelly is a special animal. She was rushed to Boston's Angell Memorial Hospital four weeks ago from her Smithtown home to undergo anti-cancer treatments that had never been tried in large animals.

Kelly is kept in the intensive-care unit, under careful observation, her owner, Patricia Walker said. "They're treating her like a celebrity."

It's too early to tell whether Kelly's treatments are working. But the results will be watched carefully by cancer researchers worldwide. The treatment, called anti-angiogenesis therapy, may offer a new way to approach cancer. Anti-angiogenesis therapy is based on the deceptively simple idea that tumors might be defeated – starved to death – if their blood

supply could be blocked. It is the brainchild of Dr. Judah Folkman, who has struggled for 30 years to understand and control blood vessel growth.

Now, because of pioneering work in mice, Folkman's team has found natural, hormone-like factors that effectively stop blood vessel growth and cause even aggressive tumors in mice to disappear. Better yet, there seem to be no toxic side effects, and the tumors don't develop drug resistance.

Despite such promise, however, there's no guarantee the same will be seen in humans. The first step in that direction involves Kelly. Walker makes it clear that "Kelly is not a guinea pig" and hopes that someday Kelly can come home again. Until then, she and her family are making the long pilgrimage to the veterinary hospital every weekend to visit, cuddle and groom their pet, whose full name is Grace Kelly.

A newspaper story about the new treatment gave the Walkers hope that their dog, stricken with a

type of tumor called fibrosarcoma, might be saved. The tumor was about the size of a tangerine and was growing from her soft palate into her mouth and perhaps into her sinuses. The Walkers' veterinarian, Dr. Allan Carb, contacted Dr. Michael Bernstein at the hospital. "They needed a small dog," he explained, "and Kelly had a tumor that didn't lend itself to surgery because of its location."

Under hospital care, Kelly seems to be improving, has begun to put on weight and is acting more like her old self. The Walkers said. But it will probably take months to know if she is cured.

The treatments, paid for by Harvard and Angell Memorial, are being given in small doses, escalating little by little each day, with a lookout for any signs of toxic side effects. The treatments being given to Kelly result from 30 years of work and bright ideas from Folkman and colleagues at Children's Hospital. They and other researchers gradually have identified about 20 different agents that are angiogenic, able to spur blood vessel growth in vari-

ous parts of the body. These include agents called basic fibroblast growth factor, vascular endothelial growth factor and thrombospondin.

One idea is to find some way to block these growth factors, using immune system agents such as monoclonal antibodies to keep a tumor from recruiting new blood vessels.

In a sense, this offers a way to block tumor growth, or even kill tumors, by starving them for blood. Researchers have also found a few factors that can down-regulate, or actually shut off, blood vessel growth.

One comes from a type of mold, another is the notorious drug thalidomide (which causes birth defects if taken by pregnant women) and a weak angiogenesis inhibitor is alpha-interferon. All three are showing some promise against cancer in a few patients for whom all other treatments have failed.

More important, in the past few years Folkman's team has discovered several potent anti-angiogenesis agents that occur naturally in

the body. Experiments in mice show that two of them – angiotensin and endostatin – are so powerful they very quickly can drive aggressive human tumors, which were implanted on mice, into dormancy without causing side effects or causing the tumors to develop resistance. Unfortunately, the results in mice are not automatically applicable to other species, such as dogs and humans. Far more testing must be done – including treating tumors that arise spontaneously in large animals such as dogs and apes – before clinical trials in humans can even begin.

The veterinary hospital is owned and run by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and ranks among the largest and most advanced animal medical centers in the world. Among its facilities are a modern CT-scan instrument, a linear accelerator for radiation treatment of cancers, plus the latest equipment for veterinary surgery, dentistry, ophthalmology, cardiology, neurology and intensive care. (Newsday)

ISRAELI SHARES
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Dow jumps to third record,
above 8,500 for first time

Wall Street

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The

Dow Jones Industrial average

jumped to its third straight record

Friday, closing above 8,500 points

for the first time as the market

managed to avoid heavy profit-taking.

The Dow rose 55.05 points to

8,545.72. For the week it gained

131.78 points.

In the broader market, advancing

issues led declines 1,532 to

1,329 on moderate volume of

573.7 million shares on the New

York Stock Exchange.

The Standard & Poor's index of

500 stocks rose 0.67 of a point to a

record 1,049.34, edging past

Thursday's record 1,048.66. The

Nasdaq index fell 6.60 to

1,770.51.

While the rally continued

Friday, it narrowed to a few big-

name stocks.

"Everything is not participating,"

said Alfred Kugel, Stein Roe

& Farnham senior investment

strategist. "It isn't a big, powerful

run."

Continued investor interest in big

multinational stocks buoyed the

Dow index, while technology

stocks got hit by some profit-taking.

"I'd be more inclined to categorize

today's action as an

attempt to pull back that was not

very successful," said Bruce

Bittles, market strategist at J.C.

Bradford.

The continued strength in blue

chips could reflect cash from outside

the United States seeking a

safe haven in large, familiar Wall

Street stocks, said Gail Dudack,

chief investment strategist UBS

Securities.

While blue chips rose with no

discernible pattern, a profit warning

from integrated circuit maker

VLSI Technology Inc. renewed

concerns that weak demand in

Asia will hurt chip makers' bottom

lines.

President Clinton's call

Thursday for a ban on new taxes

on cyberspace business transac-

tions helped boost Yahoo! Inc. and

other cyberstocks higher.

Yahoo rose 5-1/16 to 73-3/16 and

electronic bookseller Amazon.com

gained 4-1/4 to 77.

The dollar fell against yen

Friday, closing at 126.08, down from

127.20 on Thursday's close.

The dollar ended lower at

126.08, down from 127.20

on Thursday's close.

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Fedorov returns in Red Wings' win

DETROIT (AP) — Sergei Fedorov was no factor in his first National Hockey League game since last year's playoffs as the Detroit Red Wings beat the Florida Panthers 3-1 Friday night.

Nicklas Lidstrom, Igor Larionov and Darren McCarty scored the Detroit goals. Brendan Shanahan had three assists and Larry Murphy two for the Red Wings.

Ray Whitney scored the Panthers' goal, foiling Detroit goaltender Chris Osgood's shutout bid with just 2:33 remaining in the game. Osgood made 28 saves while Panthers goalie John Vanbiesbroeck stopped 31 shots.

Fedorov ended a long contract dispute Thursday when the Red Wings matched a \$38-million, six-year offer sheet from the Carolina Hurricanes. He was scoreless in his first NHL game since Detroit clinched the Stanley Cup on June 7.

Mighty Ducks 4, Oilers 0
Steve Rucchin scored twice and Mikhail Shtalenkov made 26 saves as Anaheim won on the road.

Jason Marshall and Doug Houda also scored for the Ducks, who moved within two points of San Jose for the eighth and final playoff spot in the West.

Shtalenkov, who backstopped Russia to a silver medal at the Winter Olympics in Nagano, earned his first shutout of the season. Anaheim ended a two-game losing streak and beat Edmonton for the third time in four meetings.

Canucks 4, Flames 4
Jyrki Lumme scored with 3:13 left in the third period as visiting Vancouver played to a tie.

Lumme knocked in the rebound of a slap shot from Pavel Bure that Calgary goaltender Dwayne Roloson couldn't control.

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
Atlantic Division									
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA			
New Jersey	29	16	6	78	145	113			
Philadelphia	29	17	9	62	160	123			
Washington	26	20	11	63	159	147			
N.Y. Rangers	18	24	16	52	145	154			
Florida	20	30	8	48	149	162			
Pittsburgh	18	29	12	48	141	166			
Tampa Bay	11	38	9	31	109	192			
Central Division									
Pittsburgh	30	16	13	73	166	134			
Montreal	22	22	13	63	170	147			
Boston	23	22	12	58	141	139			
Buffalo	22	21	14	58	146	141			
Ottawa	23	26	19	54	122	145			
Carolina	21	29	7	49	139	161			

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
Central Division									
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA			
Dallas	37	13	8	82	178	116			
Detroit	32	15	13	77	181	138			
St. Louis	30	22	8	68	174	148			
Phoenix	24	24	11	59	164	164			
Chicago	22	26	9	53	138	140			
Toronto	19	30	8	46	135	169			
Pacific Division									
Colorado	31	13	16	78	179	140			
Los Angeles	27	20	18	64	169	151			
San Jose	22	28	7	51	142	153			
Edmonton	20	29	10	50	144	170			
Anaheim	20	29	9	49	143	176			
Calgary	16	30	12	44	133	182			
Vancouver	17	33	9	43	162	209			

Thursday's results: Buffalo 1, Boston 1; New Jersey 4, Tampa Bay 1; N.Y. Rangers 5, Toronto 2; Los Angeles 7, Chicago 4; Colorado 3, Phoenix 0; San Jose 3, St. Louis 1.

Blazers in meltdown, lose to Pacers 124-59

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — For the first time in the NBA's 51-year history, one team scored more than twice as many points as the other.

The Indiana Pacers pulled off the feat Friday night with the second-most lopsided victory in NBA history, a 124-59 drubbing of the Portland Trail Blazers.

The Blazers barely surpassed the NBA record low of 57 points and came within three points of matching the worst rout in league history — a 68-point loss by Miami to Cleveland in 1991.

Previously, the closest team had come to doubling its opponent's point total was in 1951 — before the introduction of the 24-second clock — when the Minneapolis Lakers defeated the Milwaukee Hawks 99-51, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

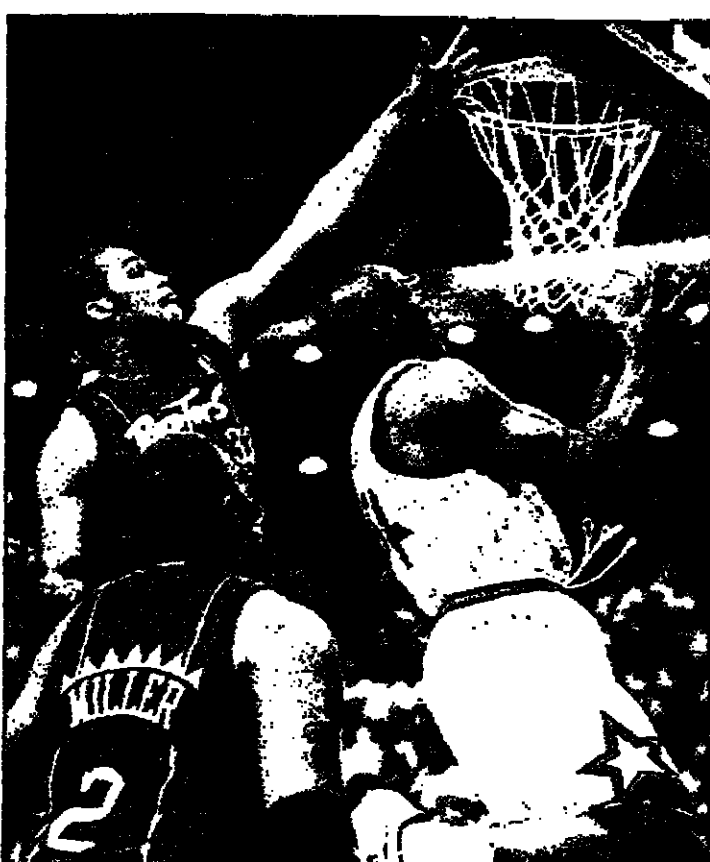
It was the largest margin of victory and the fewest points by an opponent in Indiana's 22-year NBA history.

The Blazers, who had defeated the Chicago Bulls at the United Center on Wednesday night, shot only 33 percent from the field, 42 percent from the foul line and 3-for-17 on 3-pointers.

Portland scored 14, 15, 14 and 16 points in the four quarters, committed 22 turnovers and was outscored 48-28.

Rik Smits had half of Indiana's points during a 16-0 run in the first quarter, and the Pacers then forced repeated Portland turnovers and took a 49-15 lead after a 14-0 run in the second period.

Indiana led 59-29 at the break and 84-43 after three quarters. The reserves played almost all of the fourth quarter, but the Pacers



HEAVY TRAFFIC — Orlando's Horace Grant goes in for two as Toronto's Gary Trent and Oliver Miller defend. The Raptors won in triple overtime, 115-107.

continued widening the margin.

Celtics 120, Warriors 88
Antoine Walker had 21 points, 10 rebounds and 7 assists despite sitting most of the second half, leading most Boston to its largest margin of victory this season.

Boston has won three of four

games since acquiring Kenny Anderson. He had 10 assists and has 19 assists in the past two games without a turnover.

The Warriors were led by Jason Caffey, who had 21 points and 10 rebounds.

Boston took control of the game

from the outset and led by 20 points midway through the second quarter.

Lakers 104, Timberwolves 91
Shaquille O'Neal scored 35 points and visiting Los Angeles held Minnesota scoreless over the final 2:28.

Eddie Jones scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half for the Lakers, who improved to 3-1 in the midst of their six-game, nine-day road trip.

Pistons 90, Cavaliers 87
Jerome Williams blocked a shot by Shawn Kemp that would have tied it, and Grant Hill split a pair of free throws with 10 seconds left for Detroit as the Pistons won at home.

Raptors 115, Magic 107 (3OT)
Doug Christie scored 35 points and Chauncey Billups made key plays in the extra periods against host Orlando, which played without Nick Anderson who had a bad case of the flu.

76ers 79, Nuggets 78
Derrick Coleman had 19 points and 10 rebounds and visiting Philadelphia denied Denver a go-ahead basket in the final 13.9 seconds.

Allen Iverson added 18 points and six assists and Theo Ratliff had 10 points and 12 rebounds for the 76ers, who completed their first sweep of the Nuggets since the 1993-94 season. Philadelphia won for only the eighth time in 28 road games.

SuperSonics 90, Hawks 88

Vin Baker's 10-footer over Alan Henderson with 3.1 seconds won the game for the hosts.

After Baker's winning shot, Tyrone Corbin inbounded from midcourt and Christian Laettner's 3-point attempt from the right cor-

ner bounced off the rim.

Suns 104, Clippers 99
Antonio McDyess scored 22 points and Jason Kidd got four of his 15 points in the final 67 seconds as Phoenix held off Los Angeles for a road win.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Miami	39	18	.684	—
New York	32	23	.582	6
New Jersey	33	24	.579	6
Orlando	29	28	.509	10
Washington	29	28	.509	10
Boston	27	30	.474	12
Philadelphia	19	36	.345	19

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	42	16	.724	—
Indiana	39	17	.694	2
Charlotte	33	23	.589	8
Atlanta	33	24	.579	8
Cleveland	30	27	.526	11
Milwaukee	28	28	.500	13
Denver	26	30	.464	15
Toronto	13	43	.232	28

Western Conference				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	38	16	.704	—
San Antonio	38	18	.679	1
Minnesota	30	26	.538	8
Houston	28	28	.500	11
Vancouver	14	42	.250	25
Dallas	10	46	.179	29
Denver	5	52	.088	34

Thursday's results: Washington 110, Golden State 97; New York 102, Milwaukee 90; New Jersey 102, Sacramento 99; Miami 91, Dallas 72; Houston 118, Minnesota 98; San Antonio 97, Toronto 84; Utah 108, Phoenix 97.

Carlos Ascanio, lone Venezuelan to play in Negro Leagues, dies at 82

CARACAS (AP) — The only Venezuelan to play in America's Negro baseball leagues died Friday, three weeks after he was found destitute and starving, passed out on a grimy Caracas sidewalk.

Carlos Ascanio, 82, died of respiratory failure, said Dr. Isis de Landaeza, director of the National Geriatric Institute in Caracas.

"He was improving and strong in recent days, and so his death has surprised us all," she said.

When Ascanio was found earlier this month and taken to a hospital emergency

room, an orderly gazed when he saw the name on the fading ID card in the ex-player's wallet.

Before long, a small radio station was broadcasting the news and appealing for help for the athlete who played three months with the New York Black Yankees in 1946; and whose powerful swing earned him the nickname "The Earthquake."

For the last two weeks, dozens of Caracas residents had showered him with clothes, food and offers of money.

In an interview before he died, Ascanio, his voice quivering, said his

stint in the Negro Leagues taught him "to love baseball even more."

"My best moments with the Yankees I lived with the glove. More than once people told me we won thanks to my fielding," a grinning Ascanio said from his hospital bed.

He had been living with his wife in a rundown boarding home in downtown Caracas, selling batteries and cassettes on the street.

On Feb. 9, his body gave out. Two people found him on the sidewalk unconscious and drove him to the National Geriatric Institute, where he was diag-

nosed with severe anemia caused by years of malnutrition.

Venezuelans, moved by his plight, tried to help.

His career started in 1946 in Venezuela's professional league. Playing in Cuba that year, he met a Negro League pitcher who helped him land a spot on the Black Yankees. But Ascanio was homesick, and before the season ended he returned to Venezuela and national stardom.

The book *Venezuelans in the Major Leagues* says he hit a respectable .290.

His eyes lit up when he talked about his glory days. "I played with (Joshua) Gibson, Satchel Paige and (Buck) Leonard," he said, recalling Negro League colleagues who made the Baseball Hall of Fame. "They were excellent players, and if they didn't play in the major leagues, it was because of racism."

Ascanio's skin was light enough — he was of mixed European and indigenous ancestry — to enable him to pass for white, and many nights he was sent out to buy food for the team. Because he spoke little English and mostly used hand signals, storeowners thought he

was mute, he said.

"For me it was strange that a man had to go to bed without eating because in many cities in the US, blacks could not go into the same places as whites to buy food," he said.

After retiring in 1961, Ascanio spent years running a sporting goods store in Caracas. Oil prices started plummeting in the early 1980s, and his business — along with oil-rich Venezuela's economy — went into a tailspin.

As the years passed, few remembered that The Earthquake ever stepped up to the plate in the Negro League.

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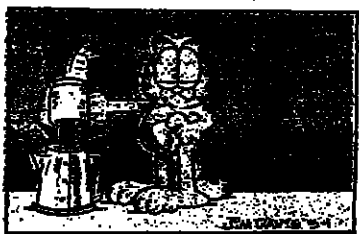
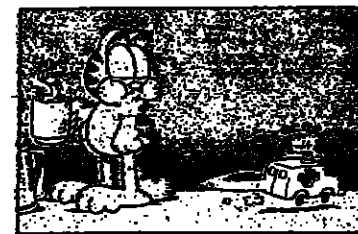
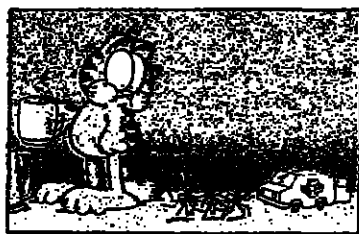
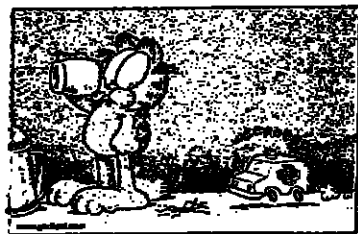
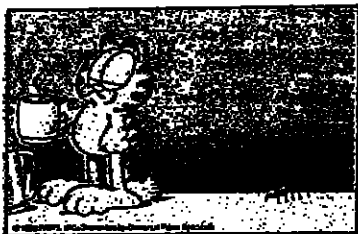
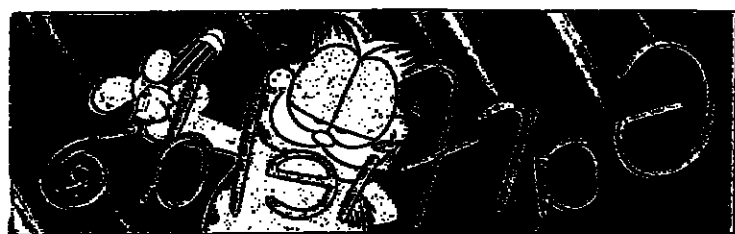
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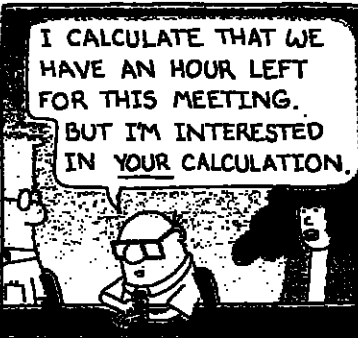
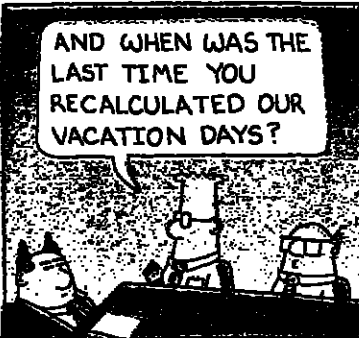
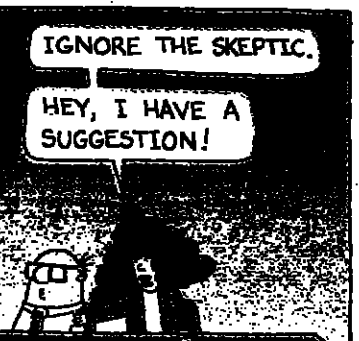
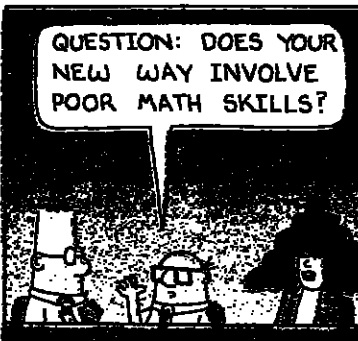
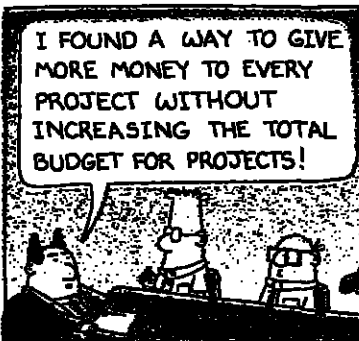
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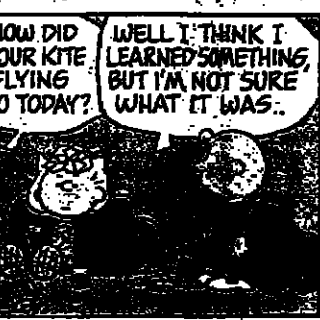
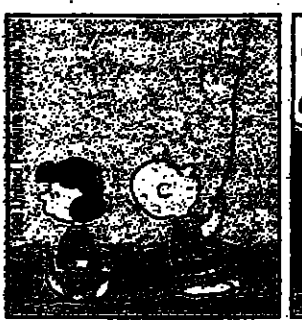
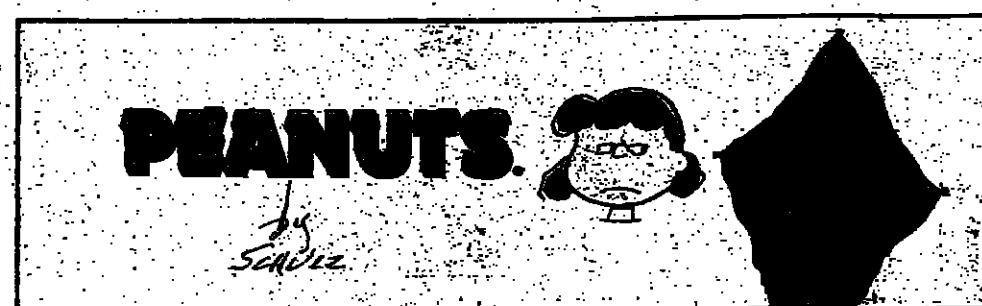
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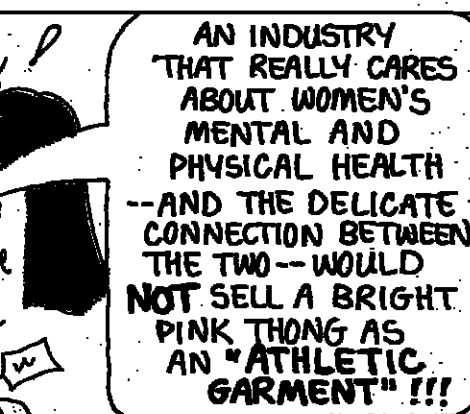
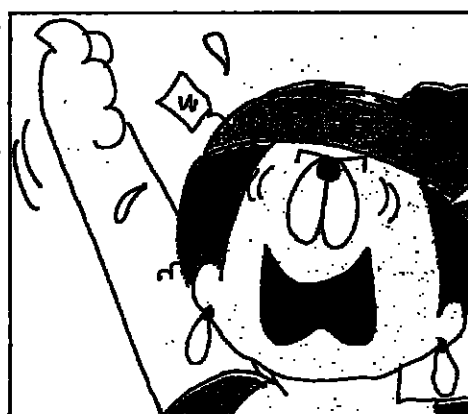
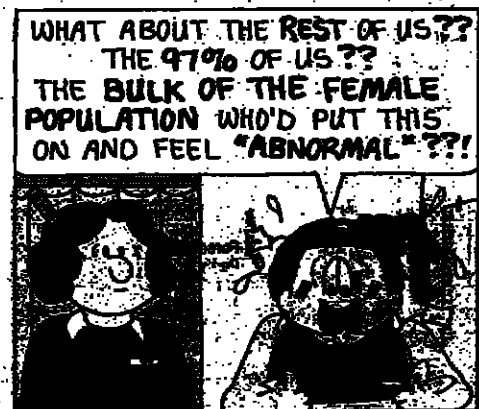
BY SCOTT ADAMS



BY CATHY GUISEWITE



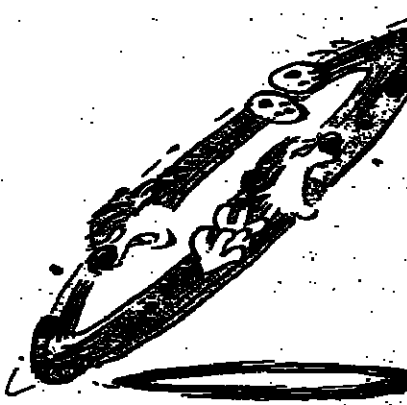
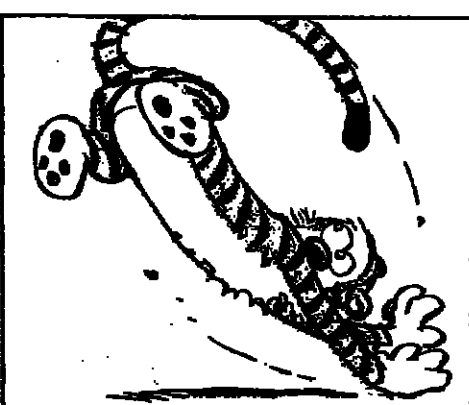
CATHY



Calvin and Hobbes

by WATKINSON

YAWN



CRITICS' CHOICE

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Three lively ladies - Anne Bellis, Flo Grozband and Rita Tassil - their preoccupation with three dead husbands and one living (available) man played by Stanley Schreiber/Mike Levine form the action of Ivan Menchell's delightful *The Cemetery Club*. The TACT production is directed by Johnny Phillips. Last show tonight at Yad Lebnaim in Tel Aviv at 8:30 p.m.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Japanese dancer/choreographer Kim Itoh and his four-person company, the Glorious Future, dance the provocative *Amoro* and *Dead and Alive*. A mere 28 years old, Itoh started his career in 1987 and went solo in 1992, appearing internationally to rave reviews. Tonight at the Tel Aviv Cinema at 8:30 p.m.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

***** **BREAKING THE WAVES** - Lyrical and ragged, slinky and mythic, Danish director Lars von Trier's English-language film works through carefully choreographed disorientation. At different points throughout the almost three-hour-long movie - which presents a brutal portrait of the religious and sexual suffering of an innocent young Scottish woman whose new husband is paralyzed in an oil-rig accident - various comparisons (to Bergman, Bertolucci, Mike Leigh and others) spring to mind. But von Trier and director of photography Robby Muller jumble these and other influences and manage in the process to fashion a texture and pitch that are



Japanese dancer/choreographer Kim Itoh and his four-person company, the Glorious Future, appear in Tel Aviv.

entirely their own. Moments that might seem cheap or voyeuristic in the hands of a lesser director become occasions for profound moral and visceral engagement. With the remarkable British actress Emily Watson in her first major role. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

TELEVISION

RUTH BELOFF-BEGUN

Alan Bates, Glenda Jackson, and Oliver Reed portray three of the compelling protagonists in Ken Russell's 1969 classic film *Women in Love*, based on the novel by D.H. Lawrence. Tonight on ETV 2 (23) at 9:00.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

The chamber music concert series at the Rubin Museum in Tel Aviv continues tomorrow (8:30) with a concert of Israeli music featuring works by Yehuda Shulman, Avi Eilat, Aharon Harlap, Ram Dam Oz, Mark Lavry, Yoav Talini, Ron Weidberg, and Zvi Avni performed by soprano Cilla Grossmeyer, recorder player Shlomo Tidhar, guitarist Yehuda Schryer, flautist Yossi Amheim and pianist Irit Rob-Levi.

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

8:30 News Flash
8:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Wonderful World of the Big Molecules
8:30 Desires
9:00 Science
9:15 Mathematics
10:00 Programs for the very young
11:00 The Environment
11:30 Nature
12:00 Mathematics
12:30 Communications
13:15 Fruits of the Earth
13:30 Animation
15:00 Pretty Beauty

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Super Ben and Zed
16:30 Rocky Vardoly
18:00 Mystery Isle
18:30 Zapzaps
18:59 A New Evening
19:30 Basketball
19:10 Time for Language
19:15 News in English

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People in America

20:00 Documentary

21:00 Magazine

21:10 Rerogade

22:00 News in English

22:30 Minsenes

00:00 Comedy series

MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

10:30 Changed Lives

11:00 It is Written

12:30 Central Message

13:00 Love Worth Finding

14:00 This is Your Day

14:30 John O'Brien

15:00 In Touch

16:00 The 700 Club

16:45 Gospel 36

17:15 The Story Keepers

17:40 Space Cases

18:05 Super Boy

18:30 Watch This

19:00 What Would You Do?

19:25 Bob Newhart

19:50 Rhoda

20:15 Hebrew Movie: Crazy Dad 2

21:45 L-Witness Video

23:00 Talkers

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Brave Children

16:40 Wiseman of the Generations

17:30 Weekly Column

18:00 Short and Sweet

18:30 News in Arabic

18:50 News in Russian

19:30 News Flash

20:45 Telespect

21:15 Blah Blah

21:50 For Women Only

22:00 Supernatural

22:30 Great Mysteries & Myths

ETV 2 (23)

16:30 Echo Point

16:50 Everything's Open

17:00 World Youth News

17:30 Masala

18:00 Radio Fever

18:30 Dealing with Dogs

18:50 Black & White

19:30 Via a Vis

20:00 A New Evening

20:30 Media File

21:00 Women in Love

21:30 The Secret

22:00 The Secret

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mother and is raped by

her boyfriend. With: Aly

Sheedy

14:40 Merry Mission

(1993) - a pilot flying a

single-engine plane is

guided by a jester.

16:15 The Song

Spinner (1995) - a lady

tells about a kingdom

where music and

magic are forbidden.

17:50 Dances in

December (1992) -

British drama about a

late romance between

a standstill and a

lover and a kind librarian.

With Jean Simmons

and Joss Ackland

19:45 Tuesday

10:45 News Sunday

11:00 The Story Keepers

11:30 The Story Keepers

12:00 The Story Keepers

12:30 The Story Keepers

13:00 The Story Keepers

13:30 The Story Keepers

14:00 The Story Keepers

Inside

Blazers
crash
to record
loss

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori LewisNational
hoopsters
beat
England

By ELI GRONER

Amir Katz scored 25 points on seven of 10 shooting to lead Israel past England 82-68 in Manchester last night. The win improves Israel's record to 4-1 in Group C of the European Championship qualifiers and virtually assures the team a spot at the basketball championships in France in 1999.

After giving Katz only five minutes of court time in Israel's 67-61 loss to Spain Wednesday, coach Muli Katzurin pulled a surprise move by starting the Hapoel Eilat guard over Oded Katash. However, after scoring 10 points in the first 10 minutes and pushing Israel to a 20-6 advantage, Katzurin inexplicably rested Katz for the remainder of the half, which ended with Israel clinging to a 37-36 lead.

Katzurin decided to play Katz for almost the entire second half and the move paid dividends.

In other Group C action, Spain defeated Denmark 86-57, and Ukraine blanked Belarus 102-72.

European National Championships				
Team	P	W	L	Pts.
Spain	5	5	0	10
Israel	5	4	1	9
England	5	2	3	7
Ukraine	5	2	3	7
Belarus	5	1	4	6
Denmark	5	1	4	6

England
87 for 6

GEORGETOWN, Guyana. (Reuters) — England were 87 for six in their first innings at close of play on the second day of the fourth Test against West Indies.

West Indies first innings 352 (Chanderpaul 118, Lara 93). England first innings 87-6.

South Africa-Pakistan. Medium paceman Shaun Pollock counter attacked Saeed Anwar's century with a five-wicket burst to bowl South Africa back into the second cricket Test at Durban.

After Anwar's 118 had propped Pakistan's second innings, Pollock took 5-50 as the visitors slumped to 222 for eight at stumps on the third day at Kingsmead.

Pakistan has an overall lead of 250 runs and a result is inevitable after the first Test was ruined by rain in Johannesburg.

Pollock, 24, ran through the Pakistan middle order with 5-14 in 43 balls as the visitors slumped from 159 for one.

Pollock made up for the absence of ace fast bowler Allan Donald as he came out of the shadows of Anwar's fifth test century in his 29th match.

Donald has been ruled out of the rest of the test with a strained muscle on his right buttock. He will bat in South Africa's second innings if required.

Pollock bowled outstanding on either side of the tea break and his scalps included Anwar, who was trapped leg before wicket for 118 runs.

Pollock, playing on his home ground, began the slide by removing Yousaf Youhana for one, his second failure on debut.

Youhana scored five in the first innings.

Pollock then proceeded after tea to trap Moin Khan (5) and Anwar (10).

Egypt wins
African Cup

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (AP) — Egypt's Pharaohs used offensive artistry and rock-solid defense yesterday to win the African Cup of Nations championship 2-0 over defending titleholders South Africa.

Egypt, which scored both goals in the first 25 minutes, closed down South Africa's talented attackers for the rest of the game while peppering goalkeeper Brian Bakoyi with good shots.

Neville lifts Manchester Utd past Chelsea

LONDON (Reuters) — Philip Neville's first goal for Manchester United earned the champions a 1-0 win over Chelsea in the Premier League yesterday and increased their lead from nine to 11 points.

At one stage United, chasing their fifth title in six seasons, were 12 clear of the field because their match at Stamford Bridge kicked off in the morning to help both clubs prepare for European matches next week.

But Blackburn's 5-3 win over Leicester City at Ewood Park in the afternoon meant that United's lead was trimmed to 11 points.

United have 59 points with 10 matches to play. Blackburn have 48 with 11 to play. Arsenal, who are third on 47 points, have 13 matches remaining. Arsenal will move back to second if they beat West Ham tomorrow.

The only goal of a scrappy, bad-tempered match at Stamford Bridge came after 31 minutes and was 20-year-old Neville's first goal in his 74th United appearance.

It was the highlight of an otherwise largely forgettable encounter and came after a good build-up involving Denis Irwin, Teddy Sheringham and Andy Cole.

Neville, unusually playing in midfield rather than defence, struck his angled shot well and it went in off the base of goalkeeper Dmitri Khariine's far post.

"It wasn't a great match but I am very pleased with the result," said United manager Alex Ferguson.

"We defended very well on a bumpy pitch with a swirling wind and we worked very hard for the points. It's a perfect warm-up for the Champions' League match against Monaco next week and a good result after losing to Barnsley in the Cup on Wednesday."

The only blight on United's day for losing Gregor Allister in the first half to what could be a recurrence of a serious back injury which sidelined him for much of last season. He is a doubt for the Monaco match.

While United and Chelsea produced only one goal between them, there were eight at Ewood Park where Blackburn ended an indifferent spell with a 5-3 win over Leicester.

Blackburn raced into a 5-0 lead after 63 minutes with a hat-trick from Chris Sutton, and one each from Martin Dahlin, fit again after a long injury lay-off, and Colin Hendry.

Leicester then came back into the match with three goals in eight



CLOSING IN — Manchester United's David Beckham (1) moves in to tackle Chelsea's Graeme Le Saux during their Premier League clash yesterday.

minutes.

"It was a good performance for an hour," said Sutton afterwards, "and it was good to start winning again after some poor form lately, but the last few minutes were a bit edgy."

There was also delight for Aston Villa striker Stan Collymore who scored both goals against his old team Liverpool to give Villa a 2-1 win in their first match under new manager John Gregory. They were Collymore's first goals since December 26.

Gregory, who took over from Brian Little as manager on Tuesday, saw his team make a poor start when 18-year-old

Michael Owen converted a sixth minute penalty.

But Villa, who had won just once in their previous seven league matches, struck back with Collymore scoring after 10 and 65 minutes.

The first goal came after the Liverpool defense failed to clear a loose ball, the second when Ian Taylor's drive came back off a post and rebounded to Collymore who could not miss from six meters out.

"It helped that Stan was playing against his old club today," said a delighted Gregory afterwards. "He took his goals well. A lot

has been said about Stan this season, and he had something to prove to 40,000 fans today — and he did just that."

The game marked American goalkeeper Brad Friedel's debut for Liverpool, displacing David James who had played 212 consecutive matches since February 1994.

Derby County maintained their push for a European place next season with a 3-0 home win over Sheffield Wednesday with Costa Rican Paulo Wanchope scoring twice. Gary Rowett added the third.

Coventry and Southampton, who have both regularly been involved in relegation battles over

the last few seasons, seemed to have banished their fears for this season with wins over Crystal Palace and Leeds respectively to consolidate their mid-table positions.

Coventry extended their winning sequence to a club record seven straight victories with a 3-0 victory at Crystal Palace.

The London side, still to win at home in the league this season, slumped to bottom place. Paul Telfer, Viorel Moldovan and Dion Dublin scored for the Sky Blues.

Southampton won 1-0 at Leeds thanks to a 54th-minute David Hirst goal, but their day was

Premier League				
Team	P	W	D	L
Man United	25	18	5	2
Blackburn	25	13	9	3
Arsenal	25	13	8	4
Liverpool	25	13	8	4
Chelsea	27	14	3	10
Derby	28	13	6	9
Leicester	28	10	10	8
Leeds	27	11	6	10
West Ham	26	12	3	11
Coventry	28	10	9	9
Southampton	28	11	4	13
Newcastle	27	9	7	11
Sheff Wednesday	28	9	7	12
Aston Villa	28	9	6	13
Wimbledon	26	8	8	10
Everton	27	12	3	12
Nottingham	27	7	6	14
Barnsley	27	4	4	16
Bolton	26	4	12	18
Crystal Palace	27	5	8	14

Aston Villa 2, Liverpool 1; Barnsley 3, Wimbledon 1; Blackburn 5, Leicester 3; Chelsea 0, Manchester United 1; Crystal Palace 0, Coventry 3; Derby 1, Sheffield Wednesday 0; Everton 0, Newcastle 0; Leeds 0, Southampton 1.

Division One				
Team	P	W	D	L
Middlesbrough	33	18	5	10
Sheff Wednesday	33	18	5	10
Charlton	34	17	8	9
Sheff United	33	15	13	5
Birmingham	34	14	11	9
Leeds	33	13	10	10
Stockport	35	15	6	14
Wolverhampton	33	15	6	12
West Brom	35	14	12	9
Bradford	36	12	12	12
Crewe	35	14	4	17
Swindon	35	13	7	15
Norwich	35	11	10	14
Oxford United	34	11	7	16
QPR	35	9	13	13
Reading	34	10	9	15
Bury	35	7	17	11
Tranmere	34	9	10	15
Manchester City	35	9	9	17
Preston	34	10	8	16
Huddersfield	35	9	9	17
Sheff	34	8	11	15
Port Vale	34	9	7	18

Bury 1, Swindon 0; Charlton 1, Huddersfield 0; Crewe 1, Reading 0; Manchester City 1, West Brom 0; Norwich 0, Queens Park Rangers 0; Oxford United 3, Stockport 0; Preston 0, Tranmere 0; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Bradford 1; Sunderland 2, Ipswich 1; Wolverhampton 1, Birmingham 1.

Division Two				
Team	P	W	D	L
Watford	34	20	7	7
Northampton	35	20	7	7
Grimsby	32	15	8	11
Bristol Rovers	34	15	8	11
Fulham	34	14	9	11
Gillingham	34	14	9	11
Wrexham	33	13	9	11
Oldham	34	12	9	13
Barnet	34	13	11	11
Chesham	35	11	10	14
Blackpool	35	13	15	6
Walsley	34	13	10	11
Wigan	33	11	9	13
Walsley	33	11	9	13
Preston	34	10	9	15
Walsley	32	10	9	15
Luton	34	9	11	14
Cardiff	34	10	7	17
Plymouth	34	8	11	15
Barnley	34	8	10	16
Southend	35	7	19	14
Walsley	35	7	15	14

Blackpool 2, Fulham 1; Barnet 0, Preston 2; Bradford 1, Walsley 2; Bristol City 1, Southend 0; Cardiff 2, Barnley 1; Northampton 2, Grimsby 1; Oldham 1, Walsley 1; Plymouth 0, Luton 2; Watford 3, Bristol Rovers 2; Wigan 2, Chesham 0; Wrexham 2, Walsley 1; Wycombe 1, Gillingham 0.

Division Three				
Team	P	W	D	L
Notts County	35	22	9	4
Tranmere	35	18	9	8
Harrogate	35	17	10	8
Barnet	35	16	10	9
Scarborough	35	16	8	11
Peterborough	35	15	11	9
Rotherham	35	14	12	9
Lincoln City	34	14	12	8
Colchester	35	15	8	12
Chesham	35	15	7	13
Leyton Orient	34	14	11	9
East	35	13	10	12
Harrogate	35	12	10	13
Harrogate	35	12	10	13
Southend	34	12	9	13
Darlington	34	11	9	14
Camb United	35	9	14	12
Cardiff	37	7	20	8
Shrewsbury	33	10	10	13
Blackdale	35	12	3	20
Swansea	35	11	6	18
Hull	35	8	5	22
Brighton	35	5	11	19
Doncaster	35	3	7	25

Division Three
Barnet 1, Shrewsbury 1; Brighton 3, Chester 2; Cambridge United 2, Harrogate 1; Harrogate 1, Blackdale 1; Harrogate 1, Doncaster 1; Harrogate 1, Notts County 0; Rotherham 2, Leyton Orient 1; Scarborough 2, Hull 1; Southend 3, Cardiff 3.

Scottish Premier				
Team	P	W	D	L
Celtic	27	18	4	5
Hearts	27	15	5	7
Rangers	27	15	3	9
Kilmarnock	27	9	8	10
St. Johnstone	27	9	6	12
Dundee United	27	7	10	10
Aberdeen	27	7	8	12
Motherwell	26	7	5	14
Dundee	26	6	5	15
Hibernian	27	4	7	16

Leading scorers after Saturday's matches:
16 — Chris Sutton (Blackburn Rovers)
14 — Dion Dublin (Coventry City)
13 — Kevin Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers), Michael Owen (Liverpool)
12 — John Harrison (West Ham United), Dennis Bergkamp (Arsenal), Andy Cole (Manchester United)
11 — Francesco Barisoni (Derby County), Paolo Wanchope (Derby)
10 — Ian Wright (Arsenal), Darren Huckerby (Coventry), Neil MacCallister (Leeds United), Paolo Di Canio (Sheff Wednesday)
9 — Robbie Fowler (Liverpool), Kevin Davies (Southampton), Neil Blake (Bolton Wanderers), Duncan Ferguson (Everton).

Betar stage great comeback but Hap TA stay top

By ORI LEWIS and DEREK FATTAL

The weekend's 21st round of National League soccer provided lots of action and no little drama as leaders Hapoel Tel Aviv went very convincingly and second-placed Beitar Jerusalem made a tremendous comeback to crush bottom team Hapoel Beersheba.

The Negev side fell back into the cellar following Hapoel Ashkelon's 1-0 win over Ironi Ashdod on Friday.

Hap. TA 2, Hap. Beit She'an 0. This result at last allows Tel Aviv fans to boast that their side is not without some attacking flair, however it took 39 minutes for the league leaders to find a way through Beit She'an's defensive stockade. The break came when Sebastian Simorotic prodded the ball to Ofer Shitrit to provide the lethal finish from inside the Beit She'an area.

Nine minutes into the second half the reds had their fans dancing on the terraces again, when man of the match Shalom Tikva

ended a charge down the left flank with a square ball to the other side of the area which Simorotic elegantly collected, edged past a defender then let fly a low wicked shot that beat Meir Cohen in the Beit She'an goal.

The Tel Aviv supporters were then treated to some vintage attacking football marshalled by Tikva and Simorotic as the home side charged forward in waves. Shitrit headed just over the bar in the 58th minute, while Cohen managed to dive and deflect a teasing shot by Tikva on to the post and then to safety.

Hap. Beersheba 2, Bet. Jerusalem 5.

Visitors Beitar Jerusalem registered a record comeback victory over Hapoel Beersheba in front of a crowd of over 12,000. Jerusalem came back from 2-0 down at half-time and with only 10 men, to thrash the league's bottom club 5-2. It was the first time in living memory that a below-strength side has come back to win by such an

emphatic margin. Betar went 1-0 down within 16 seconds when defender Ra'anan Derit put the ball in his own net. In the process, Betar's international goalkeeper, Itzik Kornfein twisted his back and had to be substituted. Betar's woes continued when international defender, Yossi Abuksis, was shown the red card in the 20th minute, and things looked desperate when on the stroke of half-time Dudu Hefter set the home crowd on fire by netting Beersheba's second goal.

The tables were turned at the start of the second half when international striker Nir Sivilla pulled a goal back for the visitors within seconds. From then, Betar never looked back as Stefan Saloi (60th minute), Istvan Hamar (69), Sivilla again (84) and finally Istvan Pishont (89) made sure the visitors would take all three points back to the capital.

The partying was spoiled after the game when Betar's bus was stoned by irate Beersheba fans who now should begin contemplat-

ing life in the second division.

Ironi Kishon 2, Hap. Haifa 1. The home team were too good for aspiring title challengers Haifa yesterday. Moshe Sabag with a solo goal in the 33rd minute and Avi Pituasi (49) gave Kishon the points. Haifa were reduced to 10 men in the 18th minute when Dimitri Uliyanov was sent off. Liron Bassis scored Haifa's consolation goal in the 69th minute.

Hap. PT 1, Mac. Tel Aviv 1.

Maccabi once again threw two vital points away after relinquishing a lead late on. Eli Drakis added another goal to his season's tally, which now stands at 12 when he struck in the 50th minute, but a Motti Kalkon penalty 26 minutes later saw the teams share the spoils.

Mac. Haifa 0, Hap. Beersheba 4.

Kfar Sava came to Kiryat Eliezer and rubbed Haifa's noses in the dirt. Haifa were simply pathetic and the visitors took full advantage. Tarli Mitrail, Santos Washington and Yaniv Abargil

Spiegel sacked as
Mac. Haifa manager

By ORI LEWIS

Giora Spiegel, the manager of Maccabi Haifa was told to leave yesterday by club president Ya'akov Shahar, four months earlier than planned. Spiegel, who led the Haifa side — one of the league's most successful since the early 1980s — to a league championship in 1993-94 and to two State Cup wins in 1993 and '95, had coached the club for six seasons. He took over from Shlomo Scharf when the latter was appointed Israel coach in 1992.

A string of poor results over the past 18 months had led club boss Shahar not to renew Spiegel's contract when it expired at the end of the current season. But a deterioration of relations among the club staff, which culminated in Haifa's 4-0 home drubbing by Hapoel Kfar Sava yesterday prompted Shahar to terminate Spiegel's employment immediately.

At a hastily-called press conference in the Haifa dressing room following the loss, Shahar said there was no point in hanging on with Spiegel. "With the prevailing atmosphere at the club I cannot allow the situation to continue. I have decided it's time for Giora to go," Shahar said.

Argentine-born Daniel Brailowsky, a former Israeli international striker, has been put in charge until the end of the season. Spiegel, speaking later, said: "It has been very difficult to work here lately, but I know the trade inside out, it has always been clear to me that bad things can also happen in a club. This is still a good club, I am leaving behind one of the best outfits in the country, but we have been unlucky at times." The ousted manager told reporters.

Toto line: 2,1,1,1,1,X,2,1,X,2,2,2,X,2,2
Toto Plus: 2,X,1,X,1,X,1,1,2,X,2,X,2
Toto Teko: 6, 9, 13, 25, 27, 33.

Israel to face Austria in 2000
European Championships

By DEREK FATTAL

The national team is set to open its Group 6 qualifying match play for the European Championships in 2000 with a tough away encounter against Austria, according to a provisional agreement after nine hours of heated negotiations in Vienna yesterday.

Just over a month later the Israelis will play their next match away to San Marino and a mere four days after that the blue and whites will play the first of three home fixtures against the group favorites Spain. The playing of two matches so close to each other is a result of UEFA's recognition of the problems of getting international squads together when so many players are playing their trade in different leagues across the continent.

The make-or-break fixture could be the home match on June 6 next year against the Austrians. Israel close their involvement in the preliminary competition the following

October with an away meeting against Spain.